

ARMY



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REGULAR

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AND VOLUNTEER
FORCES.

VOLUME XVII.—NUMBER 23.
WHOLE NUMBER 855.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, JANUARY 10, 1880.

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General TODLEBEN states: "The number of Turkish bullets which fell among the Russian ranks, when they were still 2,000 yards away from the defenders position, was such, that divisions which, at the outset, numbered from 10,000 to 12,000 men, were speedily reduced to a strength of from 4,000 to 5,000; in other words, they lost half their effectives."

Captain KOUROPATKINE, speaking of the attack upon Loftcha, states: "At 2,000 yards from the Turkish position, Russian soldiers were struck down by the defenders' bullets, and at 1,500 yards men were falling rapidly on all sides."

General ZEDDELER, of the Russian Guard, states: "The Russians began to suffer loss at 3,000 paces from the defenders' position," "at 2,000 paces men were falling rapidly, and as the attack progressed, the reserves suffered nearly as much as the firing line."

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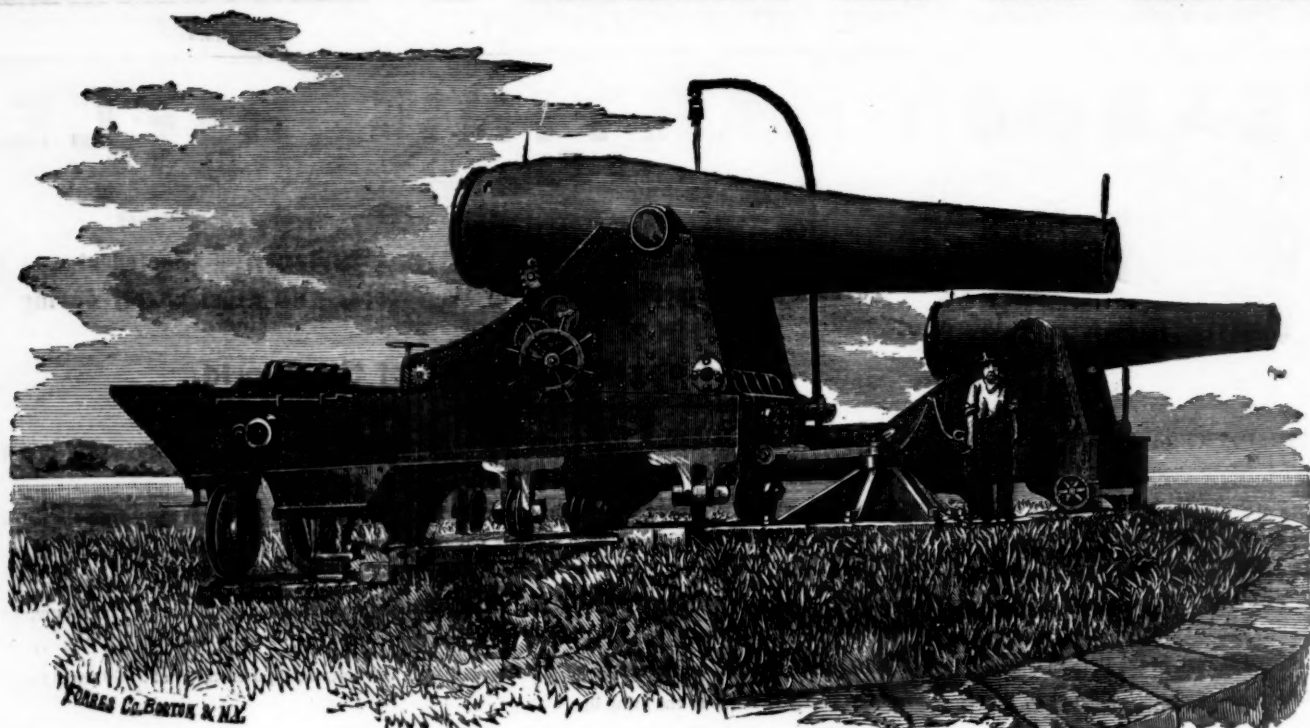
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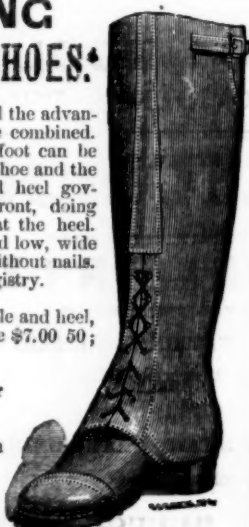
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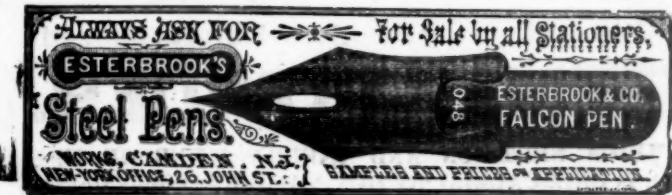


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THE ARMY.

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Alexander Ramsay, *Secretary of War.*

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H. J. Crosby, *Chief Clerk, War Department.*

Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, *Adjutant-General.*
Brig.-General Randolph B. Marcy, *Inspector-General.*
Brig.-General Wm. M. K. Dunn, *Judge-Advocate-General.*
Colonel (with assigned rank of Brigadier-General) Albert J. Myer,
Chief Signal Officer.
Brig.-General Montgomery C. Meigs, *Quartermaster-General.*
Brigadier-General R. Macfadyen, *Commissary Gen. of Subsistence.*
Brigadier-General Jos. K. Barnes, *Surgeon-General.*
Brigadier-General Benj. Alvord, *Paymaster-General.*
Brigadier-General Horatio G. Wright, *Chief of Engineers.*
Brigadier-General Stephen V. Benét, *Chief of Ordnance.*

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Lieut.-General P. H. Sheridan: Headquarters, Chicago, Ill.
Colonel Wm. D. Whipple, A. A. G.
DEPARTMENT OF DAKOTA.—Brig.-General A. H. Terry.
Hdqrs, St. Paul, Minn. Major Geo. D. Ruggles, A. A. G.
District of Montana.—Colonel T. H. Ruger, 18th Infantry,
commanding District: Headquarters, Helena, Mont. 1st Lieut.
Robt. Bates, Adj't. 18th Infantry, A. A. G.
District of the Yellowstone.—Col. N. A. Miles, 5th Infantry,
Headquarters, Fort Keogh, M. T. Capt. Frank D. Baldwin, Co. K,
5th Infantry, A. A. G.

DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.—Brigadier-General John Pope:
Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth, Kas. Maj. E. H. Platt, A. A. G.
District of New Mexico.—Colonel Edward Hatch, 9th Cavalry,
Hdqrs, Santa Fe, N. M. 1st Lt. John S. Lound, 9th Cav., A. A. G.
DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE.—Brigadier-General Geo. Crook:
Hdqrs, Fort Omaha, Neb. Lieut.-Col. Robert Williams, A. A. G.
DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.—Brigadier-General E. O. C. Ord: Hdqrs,
San Antonio, Texas. Major Thomas M. Vincent, A. A. G.
District of the Rio Grande.—Col. George Sykes, 20th Infantry,
Hdqrs, Fort Brown, Texas. 1st Lieut. J. B. Rodman, 20th In-
fantry, A. A. G.
District of the Nueces.—Col. D. S. Stanley, 23d Infantry,
Hdqrs, Fort Clark, Tex. 1st Lieut. H. H. Ketchum, Adjutant 23d
infantry, A. A. G.
District of the Pecos.—Colonel B. H. Grierson, 10th Cavalry,
Hdqrs, Ft. Concho, Tex. 1st Lieut. Robert G. Smith, 10th Cav.,
A. A. G.
District of North Texas.—Lieut.-Col. E. S. Otis, 22d Infantry,
commanding Hdqrs, Fort McKavett, Tex. 1st Lieut. J. McA.
Webster, 22d Inf., A. A. G.

MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

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Col. J. B. Fry, A. A. G.
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Headquarters, Governor's Island, N. Y. H. Col. J. B. Fry,
A. A. G.
DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.—Brigadier-General C. C. Angur:
Hdqrs, Newport Bks, Ky. Major J. H. Taylor, A. A. G.

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AND DEPARTMENT OF CALIFORNIA.

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Lieut.-Colonel John C. Kelton, A. A. G.
DEPARTMENT OF THE COLUMBIA.—Brig.-Gen. O. O. Howard:
Hdqrs, Vancouver Bks, Wash. T. Major O. D. Greene, A. A. G.
DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.—Brevet Major-General O. B. Wilcox:
Colonel 12th Infantry: Hdqrs, Whipple Bks, Prescott, Arizona.
Major J. P. Martin, A. A. G.

MILITARY DEPARTMENT OF WEST POINT.

Major-General John M. Schofield: Hdqrs, West Point, N. Y.
Captain Wm. A. Wheeler, A. D. C. Act. A. G.
Major General S. M. Schofield, Superintendent, U. S. M. A.
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LIST OF OFFICERS ON GENERAL RECRUITING SERVICE.
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Capt. J. M. J. Sanno, 7th Infantry, A. A. General.

PRINCIPAL DEPOT.

David's Island, N. Y. H.—Lt.-Col. Zenas B. Bliss, 19th Inf., comd'g.
SUB DEPOT.

Columbus Barracks, O.—Lt.-Col. T. M. Anderson, 9th Inf., comd'g.

RECRUITING.

Baltimore, Md., 218 W. Pratt st. Capt. Edmund Butler, 5th Inf.
Boston, Mass., 18 Portland st. Capt. William F. Drum, 2d Inf.
Buffalo, N. Y., 55 Pearl st. Capt. Gaines Lawson, 25th Inf.
Cincinnati, O., Cor. 4th and
Sycamore sts. Capt. Jacob Kline, 18th Inf.
Chicago, Ill., 9 South Clark st. Capt. William H. Jordan, 9th Inf.
Cleveland, O., 142 Seneca st. Capt. J. A. P. Hampson, 10th Inf.
Harrisburg, Pa., 17 North 3d st. Capt. E. C. Woodruff, 12th Inf.
Indianapolis, Ind., 15 West
Washington st. Capt. C. J. Von Herrmann, 4th Inf.
Nashville, Tenn., 9½ Cherry st. 1st Lieut. H. Wygant, 24th Inf.
New York City, 100 Walker st. Capt. J. S. Fletcher, Jr., 16th Inf.
New York City, 109 West st. Capt. C. McKibbin, 15th Inf.
St. Louis, Mo., 112 North 9th st. Capt. James H. Gageby, 3d Inf.
Washington, D. C., 1221 H st. Capt. Henry C. Corbin, 24th Inf.

GENERAL MOUNTED RECRUITING SERVICE.

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Superintendent, Bvt. Maj.-Gen. Cuvier Grover, Col. 1st Cavalry.
CAVALRY DEPOT—JEFFERSON BARRACKS, MO.
Col. C. Grover, 1st Cavalry, Commanding.
Lieut.-Col. James F. Wade, 10th Cavalry, Executive Officer.
1st Lt. Chas. Morton, 3d Cavalry, Adjutant and Treasurer.
1st Lt. Chas. G. Gordon, 6th Cav. Dep. Q. M. and Commissary.
Surgeon Ed. F. Vollum, Dep. Surgeon.

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Cincinnati, O. 19 W. 4th st. Capt. Michael Conney, 9th Cav.
Buffalo, N. Y. 81 Pearl st. Capt. H. J. Farnsworth, 8th Cav.
Baltimore, Md. 374 Sharp st. 1st Lt. John T. Morrison, 10th Cav.
St. Louis, Mo. 717½ Olive st. 1st Lt. M. E. O'Brien, 3d Cav.
N. Y. B'ch off. 126 Maiden Lane. 1st Lt. F. M. Gibson, 7th Cav.
Boston, Mass. 90 Court st. 1st Lt. C. H. Rockwell, 5th Cav.

G. O. 112, H. Q. A., Dec. 17, 1879.

Publishes the following extract from an opinion of the
Attorney-General of the United States, for the information of
all concerned:

"DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE,
WASHINGTON, December 11, 1879."

"In my opinion . . . a post trader at Fort Custer, in the
Indian country, has no right to maintain a traffic in goods
with the Indians, unless he be properly licensed for such
trade."

"Post traders can be authorized only for the military
forces, or when needed 'for the accommodation of emigrants,
freighters, or other citizens.' I know of no authority which
permits the military authorities to allow a trade at such estab-
lishments with the Indians."

"CHAS. DEVENS, Attorney-General."

G. O. 1, H. Q. A., Jan. 2, 1880.

When companies are serving at stations remote from regi-
mental hdqrs, the monthly reports of target practice (pre-
scribed by par. 3, G. O. 86, of 1879, from this office) will be
sent by company commanders direct to Dept. Hdqrs, a copy
being sent to regimental hdqrs.

CIRCULAR 41, DEPT. MISSOURI, Dec. 18, 1879.

Gives the annual estimates for fuel, forage, and straw;
annual, semi-annual, and quarterly estimates for Quartermas-
ter's stores; estimates for construction or repairs of barracks,
quarters, and hospitals.

CIRCULAR 43, DEPT. TEXAS, Dec. 26, 1879.

Gives the recapitulation of target practice, in the Dept. of
Texas, compiled from company reports for the month of
October.

STAFF CORPS AND DEPARTMENTS.

BUREAU OF MILITARY JUSTICE.—Major Asa Bird Gardner,
Judge-Advocate of the Dept. East, will proceed to Albany,
N. Y., on public business (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, D. E.).

QUARTERMASTER'S DEPARTMENT.—Capt. Charles S. Heintz-
elman, A. Q. M., is assigned to duty as post Q. M. at St.
Francis Bks, St. Augustine, Fla. (S. O. 1, Jan. 3, D. S.).

Major C. A. Reynolds, member G. C.-M. Fort Porter, N. Y.,
Jan. 7 (S. O. 2, Jan. 3, D. E.).

Capt. Charles S. Heintzelman, A. Q. M., having reported
for assignment to duty at St. Augustine, Fla. the Comd'g
Gen. Dept. of the South will issue such instructions as may
be necessary in the case (S. O. 92, Dec. 31, M. D. A.).

In compliance with par. 4, S. O. 269, Hdqrs Dept. of Texas,
Dec. 29, 1879, Capt. T. J. Eckerson, A. Q. M., is relieved from
duty as post Q. M., of Fort Brown, Texas, and is announced
as Chief and Disbursing Q. M. of the District of the Rio
Grande. He will retain the two civilian clerks now with him.
Capt. Eckerson will transfer all property and funds pertaining
to Fort Brown to 1st Lt. T. W. Lord, Regimental Q. M. 20th
Infantry, the officer designated by the G. O. Fort Brown to
relieve him. In severing the official relations in part, which
have existed between the district commander and Captain
Eckerson, after an unbroken service of two years, the district
commander bears testimony to the zeal, promptness, and
fidelity with which he has discharged the duties of the post
and district (G. O. 4, Dec. 27, Dist. of Rio Grande).

Capt. C. W. Williams, A. Q. M., will report by letter to the
Comd'g Gen. Mil. Div. of the Atlantic for assignment to duty
as Post Q. M. at McPherson Bks, Atlanta, Ga. (S. O. 1, Jan. 6,
W. D.).

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—Asst. Surg. H. S. Kilbourne,
member G. C.-M. Fort Porter, N. Y., Jan 7 (S. O. 2, Jan. 3,
D. E.).

The contract of A. A. Surg. W. H. Hills is annulled—
to take effect on his receipt of the order (S. O. 272, Dec. 26,
D. T.).

The following named Hospital Stewards are relieved from
their present duties, and assigned as follows: Jacob Chris-
tian, to duty in the dispensary at Dept. of Texas; A. E. Farr,
to duty at the Post of San Antonio; Edward Swann, to duty
at the Post of San Felipe (S. O. 275, Dec. 31, D. T.).

Major William H. Forwood, Surg., will report to the C. O.
Fort Omaha, Neb., for duty as post surgeon, relieving 1st
Lieut. and Asst. Surg. Richards Barnett, from that duty (S. O.
121, Dec. 29, D. P.).

Capt. Valery Havard, Asst. Surg., his leave of absence ex-
tended one month (S. O. 91, Dec. 22, M. D. A.).

Hosp. Steward Alison E. Kauffman, San Antonio, Texas,
will be discharged the service of the United States on receipt
of order, where he may be serving, having failed to perform
his duties properly (S. O. 288, Dec. 22, A.-G. O.).

Surg. Glover Porin is detailed a member of the Retiring
Board convened at Fort Leavenworth, Kas., by S. O. 23,
Jan. 29, 1879, from the W. D., vice Surg. J. P. Wright, re-
lieved (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, W. D.).

The following changes in the stations and duties of officers
of the Medical Dept. are made: Surg. B. A. Clements, having
relinquished his leave of absence, will report to the C. O.
Willett's Point, N. Y., for duty at that post, relieving Surgeon
Anthony Heger, who will proceed, on or before Feb. 1, 1880,
to San Antonio, Tex., for assignment to duty (S. O. 1, Jan. 6,
W. D.).

The leave of absence granted Asst. Surg. Valery Havard,
Fort Johnston, N. C., is extended one month (S. O. 91, Dec.
22, M. D. A.).

PAY DEPARTMENT.—Paymaster G. E. Glenn will proceed to
Lexington and Louisville, Ky., and Nashville and Pulaski,
Tenn., on business connected with the payment of bounties
to colored soldiers (S. O. 194, Dec. 31, D. S.).

Major Joseph H. Eaton, Chief Paymaster, to pay at Van-
couver Bks and Arsenal, W. T., and Forts Canby, W. T., and
Stevens, Ore.; Major James F. Canby, to pay at Fort Harney,
Ore., Boise Bks, I. T., and Fort Townsend, W. T.; Major
John B. Keefer, to pay at Forts Cour d'Alene and Lapwai,
I. T., Walla Walla, W. T., and Camp Howard, I. T.; Major
Daniel R. Larned, to pay at Fort Colville and Camp Chelan,
W. T. (S. O. 189, Dec. 16, D. O.).

Major Alexander Sharp will proceed from Yankton, D. T.,
to Sioux City, Iowa, and return, on public business. Major
Alexander Sharp, with his authorized clerk, will proceed to,
and pay the troops stationed at Forts Randall, Hale, Sully,
and Bennett, D. T. (S. O. 143, Dec. 27, D. D.).

ORDNANCE DEPARTMENT.—The leave of absence for ten
days granted 1st Lieut. James O. Ayres is extended five days
(S. O. 143, Dec. 27, D. D.).

The Comd'g Gen. Dept. of Dakota will grant a furlough for
six months, with permission to go beyond sea, to Ord. Sergt.
Martin Schacht, to take effect after his next re-enlistment
(S. O., Jan. 6, W. D.).

THE LINE.

1st CAVALRY, Colonel Cuvier Grover.—Headquarters
and A. B. F. K. M. Fort Walla Walla, Wash. T.; D. Cp. Howard,
Idaho T.; C. Fort Bidwell, Cal.; G. Fort Boise, Idaho T.;
I. Fort Halleck, Nev.; H. Fort Colville, Wash. T.; L. Fort Klamath,
Ore.; E. Fort Lapwai, Idaho T.

Change of Station.—The station of Co. F is changed from
Fort Harney, Ore., to Fort Walla Walla, W. T. (S. O. 187,
Dec. 13, D. C.).

Target Practice.—2d Lieut. J. F. Reynolds Landis, 1st
Cav., and 1st Sergt. Robert M. Hickey, Co. D, 21st Inf., are
relieved as instructor and "coach," respectively, of target
practice at Vancouver Bks, W. T. Lieut. Landis will proceed
to Fort Walla Walla, W. T., for the performance of the same
duties at that post devolved upon him in par. 5, S. O. 107,
from Hdqrs Dept. Columbia, at Vancouver Bks, W. T. The
C. O. will direct Corpl. John Wilson, Co. M, 1st Cav., to re-
port to Lieut. Landis, for duty as "coach" during his tour as
instructor at that post. Sergt. Hickey will return to Fort
Townsend, W. T., and report for duty with his company (S.
O. 188, Dec. 15, D. C.).

2nd CAVALRY, Col. J. W. Davidson.—Headquarters
and C. F. G. M. Fort Custer, M. T.; A. B. E. I. Fort Keogh, M. T.;
D. K. Fort Ellis, M. T.; H. L. Fort Assiniboine, M. T.

3rd CAVALRY, Colonel A. G. Brackett.—Headquarters
and H. K. L. M. Fort Laramie, Wyo. T.; A. B. D. F. Fort Sanders,
Wyo. T.; C. Fort Robinson, Neb.; G. Camp Sheridan, Neb.; E.
I. Fort Fred. Steele, Wyo. T.

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of
one month, 1st Lieut. George F. Chase, Fort Omaha, Neb.
(S. O. 1, Jan. 3, D. P.).

Leave Extended.—Capt. John C. Thompson, two months
(S. O., Jan. 2, W. D.).

Par. 2, S. O. 184, Aug. 8, 1879, from the War Dept., ex-
tending the leave of absence granted 1st Lieut. A. D. B.
Smead to Feb. 28, 1880, is amended to extend his leave to
Feb. 29, 1880 (S. O., Jan. 3, W. D.).

1st Lieut. George F. Chase, one month (S. O. 4, Jan. 7,
M. D. M.).

Resigned.—Par. 3, S. O. 184, Aug. 8, 1879, from the War
Dept., accepting the resignation of 1st Lieut. A. D. B. Smead,
to take effect Feb. 28, 1880, is amended to read Feb. 29, 1880
(S. O., Jan. 3, W. D.).

4th CAVALRY, Col. R. S. Mackenzie.—Headquarters
and A. D. E. K. L. M. Fort Hays, Kas.; G. H. Fort Reno,
Ind. T.; C. F. Fort Sill, Ind. T.; I. Fort Supply, Ind. T.; B. Fort
Elliott, Tex.

Detached Service.—Major E. B. Beaumont will proceed to
Fort Reno, I. T., and assume command of that post during
the temporary absence of Major J. K. Mizner (S. O. 260, Dec.
29, D. M.).

1st Lieut. A. E. Wood, having resigned his position as
R. Q. M., is temporarily attached for duty to Co. K (S. O. 2,
Jan. 2, D. M.).

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of
one month, Major J. K. Mizner, Fort Reno, I. T. (S. O. 260,
Dec. 29, D. M.).

Leave Extended.—1st Lieut. Stanton A. Mason, Fort Reno,
Ind. T., ten days (S. O. 1, Jan. 2, M. D. M.).

Capt. Henry Sweeney, Fort Garland, Colo., extended one
month, to apply for a further extension of four months (S.
O. 2, Jan. 5, M. D. M.).

Deceased Comrades.—A meeting of the enlisted men of
Company F, 4th Cavalry, was held at Fort Sill, I. T., on Dec.
10, 1879, in the quarters of the company, for the purpose of
passing resolutions of respect to the memory of deceased
comrades, at which the following were unanimously adopted:
Whereas, It has pleased Divine Providence to remove from
our midst our beloved comrades, Corporal Atison Comer and
Private Struther Harven, Co. F, 4th Cav.; therefore, be it
Resolved, That, while meekly submitting to the decrees of
an ever merciful God, we cannot refrain from expressing the
deep regret felt by us at the loss we have sustained by the
sudden death of our comrades. They were good soldiers,
warm hearted friends, and esteemed highly by all their
comrades.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be published in
the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL, and a copy of the paper con-
taining same be furnished the family of each deceased soldier.

JAMES H. LEWIS, 1st Sergeant Co. F, 4th Cavalry.
ALFRED C. ST. CLAIR, Corporal Co. F, 4th Cavalry.
SAMUEL HICKMAN, Private Co. F, 4th Cavalry.

Committee on Resolutions.

5th CAVALRY, Colonel W. Merritt.—Headquarters
and A. B. C. D. E. F. I. K. M. Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo. T.; H.
Fort McPherson, Neb.; G. I. Fort Washakie, Wyo. T.

Detached Service.—Capt. William J. Volkmar is temporarily
relieved from attendance upon the Board of Officers convened
by par. 2, S. O. 185, series of 1879, from the H. Q. A., and
will return to his station, Fort D. A. Russell, Wyo. T. (S. O. 1,
Jan. 2, M. D. M.).

Leave Extended.—1st Lieut. Robert London, Fort D. A.
Russell, Wyo. T., ten days (S. O. 3, Jan. 6, M. D. M.).

Capt. Emil Adam, three months (S. O., Jan. 7, W. D.).

Assignment of Duty.—Capt. William J. Volkmar will pro-
ceed to Fort Leavenworth, Kas., and report to Brig.-Gen.
John Pope for duty as Aide-de-camp on his Staff (S. O., Jan.
3, W. D.).

7th CAVALRY, Colonel S. D. Sturgis.—Headquarters
and A. C. E. G. H. M. Fort Meade, D. T.; I. L. Fort A. Lincoln,
D. T.; F. K. Fort Totten, D. T.; B. D. Fort Yates, D. T.

8th CAVALRY, Colonel Thos. H. Neill.—Headquarters
and G. Fort Ringgold, Tex.; I. Fort Brown, Tex.; A. C. D. H. I.
M. Fort Clark, Tex.; E. San Diego, Tex.; F. Fort McIntosh; B.
Fort Duncan, Tex.; K. San Felipe, Tex.

9th CAVALRY, Colonel Edward Hatch.—Headquarters,
Santa Fe, N. M.; L. Fort Bliss, Tex.; A. G. Fort Stanton,
N. M.; B. C. F. H. M. Fort Bayard, N. M.; E. Fort Union,
N. M.; I. Fort Wingate, N. M.; D. K. Fort Lewis, Colo.

Detached Service.—Capt. F. S. Dodge, Fort Bayard, N. M.,
will proceed at once to Fort Union, N. M. (S. O. 128, Dec. 29,
D. N. M.).

Rejoin.—1st Lieut. John Conline is relieved from duty at
Fort Union, N. M., and will proceed without delay to Fort
Stanton, N. M., and report to the C. O. for duty with his
company, A (S. O. 127, Dec. 24, D. N. M.).

Inspection of Accounts.—1st Lieut. John S. Loud, Adjt., A. A. A. Gen. Dist. of New Mexico, will, on Dec. 31, make the quarterly inspection of the money accounts of the disbursing officers on duty at Hdqrs. Dist. of New Mexico (S. O. 129, Dec. 30, D. N. M.).

10TH CAVALRY, Colonel Benjamin H. Grierson.—Headquarters and D. F. M. Fort Concho, Tex.; A. G. I. Fort Sill, I. T.; C. H. K. Fort Davis, Tex.; B. L. Fort Stockton, Tex.; E. San Felipe, Tex.

G. C.-M. Service.—Capt. P. L. Lee will proceed from Fort Sill, I. T., to Fort Concho, Tex., and report to the C. O. of that post, that the sentence of General Court-martial in his case, promulgated in G. C.-M. O. 71, H. Q. A., Dec. 15, 1879, may be carried into execution (S. O. 2, Jan. 2, D. M.).

1ST ARTILLERY, Colonel Israel Vogdes.—Headquarters and B. E. F. K. Fort Adams, R. I.; I. L. Fort Warren, Mass.; C. M. Fort Trumbull, Conn.; H. Fort Proble, Me.; G. Fort Monroe, Va.; A. D. Fort Columbus, N. Y. H.

G. C.-M. Service.—Capt. Chandler P. Eakin, 1st Lieut. Thomas H. Barber, Allyn Capron, John Pope, Jr., 2d Lieut. Thomas C. Patterson, Albert Todd, Frederick Marsh, members, and 1st Lieut. John M. K. Davis, Adjt., J.-A. of G. C.-M. Fort Adams, R. I., Jan. 7 (S. O. 2, Jan. 3, D. E.).

Dishonorably Discharged.—A despatch from Newport says that Corporal Nicholson, Battery F, 1st Artillery, who was under arrest and subsequently discharged by failure of the Grand Jury to indict him for causing the death of Private Foppe at Fort Adams, has been dishonorably discharged from the Army. Prior to his discharge he was reduced from Corporal to the ranks. (We learn from good authority that Nicholson was not dishonorably discharged, but has been honorably discharged by orders from the War Department, his company commander having given him a "very good" character on discharge. As many at the post thought him guilty, it was thought best to discharge him for the man's own sake as well as for the general good of the Service, but so far as the facts go the man has left the Service honorably. As is well known the Department Commander has no power to order his discharge. It was ordered by the Secretary of War—ED. JOURNAL.)

2ND ARTILLERY, Colonel Romeyn B. Ayres.—Headquarters and A. D. M. Fort McHenry, Md.; C. Fort Johnston, N. C.; E. G. Fort Brown, Tex.; K. Fort Monroe, Va.; B. H. Washington, Arsenal, D. C.; I. Fort Ontario, N. Y.; F. L. Fort Clark, Tex.

Change of Station.—1st Lieut. E. T. C. Richmond is detailed as Professor of Military Science and Tactics at Dickinson College, Carlisle, Penn. (S. O., Dec. 31, W. D.).

G. C.-M. Service.—Capt. Joseph C. Breckinridge, James E. Wilson, 1st Lieut. F. C. Grugan, Edward B. Hubbard, Edgar S. Dudley, 2d Lieut. Hamilton Rowan, F. E. Hobbs, members, and 1st Lieut. E. T. C. Richmond, J.-A. of G. C.-M. to meet at Hdqrs. Artillery Troops, Washington Arsenal, D. C., Jan. 7 (S. O. 2, Jan. 3, D. E.).

Leave Extended.—1st Lieut. George Mitchell, three days (S. O. 232, Dec. 30, D. E.).

Transferred.—Major L. L. Langdon from the Dept. of the East to the Dept. of Texas, for assignment to station (S. O. 5, Jan. 8, W. D.).

3RD ARTILLERY, Col. George W. Getty.—Headquarters and C. D. L. M. Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H.; A. Fort Monroe, Va.; E. I. Fort Wadsworth, N. Y. H.; B. Fort Niagara, N. Y.; H. Madison Bks, N. Y.; K. Plattsburg Bks, N. Y.; F. G. Fort Schuyler, N. Y.

Leave of Absence.—One month, Capt. John G. Turnbull, Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H. (S. O. 5, Jan. 7, D. E.).

Leave Extended.—Capt. Lorenzo Lorain, twenty-three days (S. O. 4, Jan. 6, D. E.).

4TH ARTILLERY, Col. W. H. French.—Headquarters and H. E. Angel Island, Cal.; C. L. Alcatraz Island, Cal.; M. Fort Stevens, Ore.; G. Fort Canby, Wash. T.; I. Fort Monroe, Va.; A. K. Fort Point, Cal.; F. Point San Jose, Cal.; B. D. Presidio, Cal.

To Join.—1st Lieut. Walter Howe is relieved from duty at the Pennsylvania State College, Centre County, Penn., and will join his battery (S. O., Dec. 31, W. D.).

5TH ARTILLERY, Col. Henry J. Hunt.—Headquarters and D. E. F. I. M. Atlanta, Ga.; A. K. St. Augustine, Fla.; B. L. Fort Barrancas, Fla.; G. H. Key West, Fla.; C. Fort Monroe, Va.

Leave of Absence.—Six months, to apply for extension of three months, 1st Lieut. James Curry (S. O., Jan. 3, W. D.).

Leave Extended.—1st Lieut. H. J. Reilly, Fort Barrancas, Fla., twenty days (S. O. 90, Dec. 20, M. D. A.).

1ST INFANTRY, Colonel William R. Shafter.—Headquarters and A. C. E. I. Fort Randall, D. T.; B. G. Fort Harkness, D. T.; D. F. H. K. Fort Meade, D. T.

Transferred.—1st Lieut. R. G. Armstrong from Co. C to G; 1st Lieut. F. M. Lynde from Co. G to C (S. O. 5, Jan. 8, W. D.).

2ND INFANTRY, Colonel Frank Wheaton.—Headquarters and A. B. G. Fort Coeur d'Alene, Idaho T.; F. Fort Harney, Ore.; C. H. Fort Colville, Wash. T.; D. E. I. K. New Post on Columbia River, W. T.

Detached Service.—2d Lieut. Edmund K. Webster will report to the C. O. Vancouver Bks, W. T., for duty until summoned by the J.-A. of G. C.-M. convened at Walla Walla, W. T., per S. O. 156, par. 2, from Hdqrs. Dept. of Columbia, to appear before it (S. O. 191, Dec. 18, D. C.).

Leave Extended.—1st Lieut. Horace B. Sarson, four months (S. O., Jan. 7, W. D.).

3RD INFANTRY, Colonel John R. Brooke.—Headquarters and C. F. G. Fort Shaw, M. T.; A. Fort Benton, M. T.; K. Fort Logan, M. T.; B. D. H. I. Missoula City, M. T.; E. Fort Ellis.

4TH INFANTRY, Colonel Franklin F. Flint.—Headquarters and B. C. F. Fort Sanders, W. T.; E. H. Fort Fred. Steele, W. T.; A. G. Fort Patterman, W. T.; D. K. Fort Laramie, W. T.; I. Fort D. A. Russell, W. T.

G. C.-M. Service.—1st Lieut. John J. O'Brien is detailed member G. C.-M. convened at Fort Fred. Steele, W. T., by par. 2, S. O. 115, from Hdqrs. Dept. Platte (S. O. 121, Dec. 29, D. P.).

Capt. Thomas F. Quinn is detailed a member of the G. C.-M. convened at Fort Sanders, W. T. (S. O. 1, Jan. 3, D. P.).

5TH INFANTRY, Colonel Nelson A. Miles.—Headquarters and A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. K. Fort Keogh, M. T.

6TH INFANTRY, Colonel William B. Hazen.—Headquarters and C. D. E. I. Fort Buford, D. T.; A. F. G. Fort Abraham Lincoln, D. T.; H. K. Fort Stevenson, D. T.; B. Cantonment on Little Missouri River.

7TH INFANTRY, Colonel John Gibbon.—Headquarters and A. B. C. D. E. F. G. H. I. K. Fort Snelling, Minn.

A despatch from Fort Benton, Montana, states that the body of a discharged soldier of the 7th Infantry, named Michael Morton, was recently found near Belt Creek. The man had evidently frozen to death.

Fort Snelling.—Work on the new Department Headquarters

to be established at this post is expected to commence early next spring. General Tompkins, Chief Quartermaster of the Department of Dakota, was at the post recently on inspection service.

8TH INFANTRY, Col. August V. Kautz.—Headquarters and B. F. H. K. Benicia Bks, Cal.; C. Fort McDermit, Nev.; D. Fort Bidwell, Cal.; E. Fort Gaston, Cal.; G. Fort Halleck, Nev.; I. San Diego Bks, Cal.; A. Fort Yuma, Cal.

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. Colville P. Terrett, ten days (S. O., Jan. 6, W. D.).

9TH INFANTRY, Colonel John H. King.—Headquarters and G. H. Fort Omaha, Neb.; A. D. Fort McKinney, W. T.; I. Fort McPherson, Neb.; E. Camp at Cheyenne Depot, W. T.; B. Fort Sidney, Neb.; C. Fort Hartsuff, Neb.; F. K. Snake Creek, Colo.

G. C.-M. Service.—2d Lieut. Guy R. Beardslee will report to the C. O. Fort Hartsuff, Neb., for temporary Garrison Court-martial duty (S. O. 1, Jan. 3, D. P.).

10TH INFANTRY, Colonel Henry B. Clitz.—Headquarters and A. E. H. K. Fort Wayne, Mich.; F. G. Fort Porter, N. Y.; B. I. Fort Brady, Mich.; C. D. Fort Mackinac, Mich.

G. C.-M. Service.—Capt. Robert H. Hall, John N. Craig, 1st Lieut. Daniel F. Stiles, Alured Larke, members, and 2d Lieut. Henry Kirby, J.-A. of G. C.-M. Fort Porter, N. Y., Jan. 7 (S. O. 2, Jan. 3, D. E.).

11TH INFANTRY, Colonel William H. Wood.—Headquarters and A. K. Fort Sully, D. T.; E. G. I. Fort Bennett, D. T.; B. G. F. H. Fort Custer, M. T.; D. Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.

Leave Extended.—2d Lieut. J. J. Dougherty, one month (S. O., Jan. 2, W. D.).

12TH INFANTRY, Colonel Orlando B. Willcox.—Headquarters and A. Fort Whipple, A. T.; B. K. Fort Verde, A. T.; C. Fort Apache, A. T.; E. Camp J. A. Rucker, A. T.; G. Fort McDowell, A. T.; D. H. Camp Thomas, A. T.; I. Fort Grant, A. T.; F. Fort Mojave, A. T.

13TH INFANTRY, Colonel Luther P. Bradley.—Headquarters and A. D. H. I. Jackson Barracks, La.; B. G. Mount Vernon, Ala.; C. E. K. Little Rock Bks, Ark.; F. Newport Bks, Ky.

14TH INFANTRY, Col. John E. Smith.—Headquarters and D. E. F. H. I. K. Fort Douglas, Utah; A. Fort Hall, Idaho; B. C. G. Fort Cameron, U. T.

15TH INFANTRY, Colonel George P. Buell.—Headquarters and D. K. Fort Wingate, N. M.; F. Fort Union, N. M.; E. Fort Bayard, N. M.; C. Fort Stanton, N. M.; B. I. Fort Lewis, Colo.; A. G. Fort Bliss, Tex.; H. Fort Marcy, N. M.

16TH INFANTRY, Colonel G. Pennypacker.—Headquarters and A. C. H. Fort Riley, Kas.; K. I. Fort Reno, Ind. T.; B. D. K. Fort Sill, Ind. T.; F. G. Fort Wallace, Kas.

Detached Service.—Lieut.-Col. James Van Voast was ordered, Jan. 1, to proceed to Fort Leavenworth, Kas., in time to be present, on Jan. 7, at a called meeting of the Retiring Board, of which he is a member (S. O. 1, Jan. 1, D. M.).

17TH INFANTRY, Colonel Thomas L. Crittenden.—Headquarters and B. D. H. I. Fort Yates, D. T.; C. Fort Totten, D. T.; G. Fort A. Lincoln, D. T.; A. F. Fort Sisseton, D. T.; E. K. Fort Pembina, D. T.

18TH INFANTRY, Colonel Thomas H. Ruger.—Headquarters and A. B. C. E. F. K. Fort Assiniboine, Montana; G. H. Fort Shaw, M. T.; I. Fort Logan, Mont. T.; D. Fort Ellis, Mont. T.

On detached service at Coal Banks, Missouri River, M. T.

A despatch from Fort Ellis states that a military telegraph office and repair station is to be opened at Crow Creek, within one mile of Radersburg, and that a company is being formed to open up telegraphic communication between Fort Ellis and Bozeman.

19TH INFANTRY, Colonel Charles H. Smith.—Headquarters and B. D. E. F. H. Fort Leavenworth, Kas.; A. K. Fort Lyon, C. T.; C. G. I. Fort Dodge, Kas.

On temporary duty at Baxter Springs, Kas.

20TH INFANTRY, Colonel Geo. Sykes.—Headquarters and B. D. G. I. K. Fort Brown, Tex.; A. San Antonio, Tex.; C. E. F. H. Fort Clark, Tex.

G. C.-M.—The G. C.-M. instituted at Fort Clark, Tex., by par. 4, S. O. 251, from Hdqrs. Dept. Texas, will not re-assemble until Feb. 16, 1880, thus to enable the arrival, at Fort Clark, Tex., of certain witnesses deemed necessary by 1st Lieut. Alexander Wishart, 20th Inf., in his defence (S. O. 274, Dec. 30, D. T.).

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of two months, Capt. William Fletcher, Fort Clark, Tex. (S. O. 273, Dec. 27, D. T.).

21st INFANTRY, Colonel H. A. Morrow.—Headquarters and C. E. G. K. Vancouver Bks, Wash. T.; A. Boise Bks, Idaho T.; B. Fort Harney, Ore.; F. Fort Klamath, Or.; B. D. Fort Townsend, Wash. T.; I. Fort Lapwai, Idaho T.

22ND INFANTRY, Colonel David S. Stanley.—Headquarters and H. Fort Clark, Tex.; B. C. G. I. Fort McKavett, Tex.; A. Fort Griffin, Tex.; D. E. F. K. Fort Gibson, Ind. T.

Detached Service.—1st Lieut. George S. L. Ward, A. D. C., will proceed to Albany, N. Y., and make an inspection of the penitentiary at that place used as a military prison (S. O. 232, Dec. 30, D. E.).

Leave Extended.—Lieut.-Col. E. S. Otis, two months (S. O., Jan. 2, W. D.).

23RD INFANTRY, Colonel Granville O. Haller.—Headquarters and A. C. D. G. I. Camp on North Fork of the Canadian River, I. T.; B. E. K. Fort Supply, Ind. T.; F. H. Fort Elliott, Tex.

Leave of Absence.—One month, to apply for extension of one month, Capt. T. M. K. Smith, Cantonment on North Fork of the Canadian River, Ind. T. (S. O. 260, Dec. 29, D. M.).

24TH INFANTRY, Colonel Joseph H. Potter.—Headquarters and A. B. F. Fort Duncan, Tex.; D. E. H. Fort McIntosh, Tex.; C. G. I. K. Fort Ringgold, Tex.

G. C.-M. Service.—On the completion of the trial of 1st Lieut. J. G. Gates, 20th Inf., Major R. F. O'Brien, 24th Inf., will stand relieved as a member G. C.-M. instituted at Fort Brown, Tex., by par. 5, S. O. 265, from Hdqrs. Dept. Texas (S. O. 275, Dec. 31, D. T.).

Leave Extended.—1st Lieut. Charles J. Crane, Fort Ringgold, Tex., one month (S. O. 2, Jan. 5, M. D. M.).

25TH INFANTRY, Colonel George L. Andrews.—Headquarters and E. H. I. Fort Davis, Tex.; B. C. D. F. Fort Stockton, Tex.; A. G. K. Fort Concho, Tex.

Leave Extended.—Chaplain George G. Mullins, six months (S. O., Jan. 3, W. D.).

Casualties among the Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the weeks ending Saturdays, December 27, 1879, and January 3, 1880.

Lieut.-Col. Charles P. Kingsbury, U. S. Army (retired)—Died Dec. 25, 1879, at Brooklyn, New York.

Colonel Arthur T. Lee (retired)—Died Dec. 29, 1879, at Rochester, New York.

1st Lieut. Jacob E. Bloom, 4th Art.—Resigned Jan. 1, 1879.

Fort McKinney, Wyo.—An exchange gives an account of a recent stabbing affray between two Government teamsters at this post, during which one was severely, possibly, mortally, wounded.

Special Inspectors Appointed.—Capt. W. F. Spurgin, 21st Inf., on Subsistence and Q. M. stores at Ft. Lapwai, Idaho T.; Capt. Thos. F. Riley, 21st Inf., on Ordnance stores at Fort Klamath, Ore.; Capt. Thomas McGregor, 1st Cav., on all public horses and mules at Fort Walla Walla, W. T., unserviceable; Capt. C. D. Vele, 10th Cav., on five cavalry horses, pertaining to Co. H, 10th Cav.

Army Nominations.—The following nominations were made by the President, Jan. 7th: Pay Department—Major George L. Febiger to be Deputy Paymaster-General, with the rank of Lieut.-Colonel, vice Henry Prince, retired; Captain Francis S. Dodge, 9th Cavalry, to be Paymaster, with the rank of Major, vice Febiger, promoted; 2d Lieut. James L. Wilson, 4th Artillery, to be 1st Lieutenant; 2d Lieut. George E. Bacon, 16th Infantry, to be 1st Lieutenant.

Decision.—Headquarters of the Army, Adjutant-General's Office, Washington, D. C., November 22, 1879.—Colonel Henry A. Morrow, 21st Infantry: (Through Headquarters Military Division of the Pacific.) Sir: In reply to your communication of the 2d instant upon the subject, I have respectfully to inform you that General Orders No. 8, of 1877, from this office, was not designed to dispense with, or to prohibit, the wearing on the collar of the coat of enlisted men, of the number of regiment or badge of corps. Very respectfully, your obedient servant, E. D. TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General (Circular 23, Dec. 17, D. C.).

General Court-martial at West Point.—Cadet Henry R. Curtis, 3d Class, was recently tried for violation of par. 110, Academy Regulations, having in his possession a bottle of intoxicating liquor and going beyond cadet limits without authority. He was found guilty and sentenced to be dismissed, but the President of the U. S., upon the recommendation of General Schofield, commuted the sentence as follows: "To be suspended till January 15, 1880, when Cadet Curtis will join the present 4th Class, and to be confined within the usual cadet limits until September 1, 1880" (G. C.-M. O. 2, H. Q. A., Jan. 3, 1880).

Staff Clerks.—The Adjutant-General of the Army, in letter dated January 5, 1880, informs the Chief of Engineers as follows: "In reply to your communication of the 23d ultimo, asking whether it was contemplated that the requirements of General Orders No. 106 of December 9, 1879, regulating the grades and pay of clerks employed by the Staff Departments of the Army—should apply to the Corps of Engineers; I am directed by the Secretary of War to inform you that General Orders No. 106 of 1879 was not intended to apply to the Engineer Corps."

ARMY MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION.—The first annual meeting of the Army Mutual Aid Association will be held on Tuesday, January 13, at 7.30 p. m., in the Library of the Army Medical Museum, 10th street, Washington, D. C. The present number of members is 305.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.—The day after the terrible Bull Run scare, writes a correspondent of the *Spirit of the Times*, I was in the camp of a German regiment from New York. General McDowell, in a foraging cap, his boots and clothes covered with mud, sat on his horse listening to a report from the adjutant, when the word was brought that the President and Mr. Seward were driving up in a carriage. In a few minutes they were there. I think Mr. Lincoln wore a stove-pipe hat, black clothes, and black gloves, and Mr. Seward had on a light suit and a broad-brimmed hat. After talking some time with Gen. McDowell, the two dignitaries left the carriage and strolled toward the men, who were drawn up by companies in double rank. The President looked at them. They were dirty, soiled, and stained. Without a word he took off his hat, placed it on the ground, and advanced to the end of the double ranks. To the man on his left he gave his right hand, to him on the right his left, and so down the entire line he passed, hand over hand, shaking each heartily and saying "God bless you, God bless you." Down the line he went, followed by Mr. Seward, who did as his leader did. Up the next line he came, his honest face aglow: "God bless you, God bless you," at every shake, and on and on until the last man in the regiment had been thanked and blessed! It was a little thing. Years later it would have been an absurdity. But it told the story of Abraham Lincoln's heart and purpose better than a volume of eulogy.

Work at the Watervliet Arsenal is again quite brisk. The force is hard at work on 14,000 military equipments for the National Guard of Pennsylvania, and on 8,000 for the National Government. The orders will keep the 150 operatives busy for some time to come.

In a paper on the old river beds of California, recently read before the American Academy of Sciences, Prof. Joseph Le Conte says: "The mode of formation of the old river beds, which are found in Middle California, is peculiar. Their rivers had been completely displaced and have formed new channels, sometimes parallel, and sometimes even at right angles to the old ones. The new channels are cut perpendicularly through 2,000 ft. to 3,000 ft. of slate rock. The old channels are filled with boulders and pebbles; capped with a conglomerate layer, described as 'trifacous,' the product of a volcanic overflow, with few pebbles. Under ordinary circumstances the tendency of rivers to clear their own channels is effective, though sometimes operating at long intervals. If the load of detritus is too heavy, it is deposited; but eventually there comes a time when the river is no longer over-loaded, and then it proceeds to tear up and remove its previous deposits. Thus at the present time the Colorado River is under-loaded, and is cutting the channel, while the Platte is overloaded and filling up; the Yuba River has filled a depth of 15 ft. in the past twenty years."

The highest inhabited houses in the world are, says the *Scientific American*, in this country; one, a miner's house on Mount Lincoln, Colorado, is 14,157 ft. high. Another, in Peru, a railway village, called Galera, is 15,645 ft. high. Near this place is the celebrated railway tunnel of La Cima, which is being bored through the peak of the mountain. The tunnel is 3,847 ft. long, and is 600 ft. above the level of perpetual snow.

INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Secretary Schurz has received the following despatches from General Hatch:

ALAMOSA, Col., Jan. 3.

The White River Utes who were with Ouray on the 24th, are not in his power, neither have they been since the 26th. The Indians sent out by way of Saguache are Ouray and Wash Charlie, Uncompaghes; Jack, Sowerwick, and Uncle Sam Charlie, White River Utes, and Caputche, Camatche, Alexandre, Wimmamaches; Agula and Buckskin Charlie, of the Muaches. They are expected here on the 5th. Ouray was requested to keep the Indians you refer to, but had not the power. I am of the opinion that the Indians, when assured by yourself that there is no other way to avoid destruction, will decide to turn over the prisoners. The promise made by them that they will turn over those demanded should be insisted upon to the last man. As long as these Indians are in our hands the Agency at Los Pinos is secure. Ouray came out at his own request and brought his wife with him. I think it is advisable to have them all before you at Washington or such point as you may designate.

HATCH, Commissioner.

Ex-Governor Hunt, of Colorado, who is now in Washington, has received the following telegram:

ALAMOSA, COL., Jan. 2.

General Hatch left Lake City this morning with Jack Sowerick, Ouray, Joheta, Uncle Sam, and nine other Uncompaghe Utes; also Douglas and a few prisoners, Buckskin Charlie and one other Southern Ute, all coming in via Saguache.

ALVA ADAMS.

ALAMOSA, COLO., Jan. 4, 1880.

Adams arrived last night. He advises that all the Indians be taken to Washington immediately on arrival here.

HATCH, Commissioner.

A despatch dated "Pueblo, Colo., January 7," says: "Twelve Ute Indians, in charge of Lieut. Taylor, of the 9th Cavalry, with 10 men, arrived here to-day, and immediately proceeded East on the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Road. They had ordered dinner at Union Depot Hotel, but the sight of a large crowd of pale faces destroyed their appetites, and they at once boarded a train and left without eating. Between 2,000 and 3,000 people congregated at the depot to see the savages. 'Hang the red devils,' 'Shoot the murdering fiends,' and like expressions were frequently heard from a portion of the crowd, and the Indians were pelted with stove coal by some boys who had boarded a coal train on the side track. The savages were terror-stricken and completely cowed. A movement was started in the morning to organize 500 men and lynch them, but cooler counsels prevailed, and the citizens determined to let the Indians pass without injury. Had there been any injudicious action taken by the troops or miners, no power could have restrained the mob from lynching them. Had Douglas or any of the Indians engaged in the murder of Mr. Meeker, or in outraging the Meeker family, been on board the train he would have been summarily dealt with. Lieut. Taylor expressed himself as determined to protect the Indians at all hazards should the mob attempt to seize them. The troops will escort the Indians to Lakin, on the east line of Colorado. If the people in other parts of the State feel as hostile as those of Pueblo, the Utes 'must go' in the spring. The people here unanimously approve Representative Belford's Indian policy."

A despatch from Alamosa, Colo., confirms the rumor that the Meeker women were maltreated while in the custody of the Ute Indians. Mrs. Meeker publishes a letter telling the whole story, from which it appears that the choice was given them of submitting to the fiendish designs of their captors or suffering death, only the poor privilege being accorded to each victim of selecting the savage under whose control she was to pass.

The receipts and disbursements under the agreement between the United States and the Ute Indians in September, 1873, ratified April 29, 1874, have been as follows: Receipts to July 1, 1879, \$129,315.07; expenses for supplies, implements, and travelling expenses of delegation, \$65,289.72—leaving unexpended a balance of \$64,025.35. During the same period there has been expended for the support of the Utes from annual appropriations made in accordance with the treaty of 1868, \$331,003.93, which exceeds the requirements of the treaty.

PAYMASTER-GENERAL'S REPORT.

We omitted to include the report of Paymaster-General Alvord among the annual reports of which we gave a synopsis. The General reports that \$12,000,-250.94 was paid to the Regular Army, \$206,872.79 to the Military Academy, and \$325,728.68 to volunteers, claims of freedmen, etc. He renews his recommendation of the annuity scheme, gives a report upon the settlement of the claims of colored soldiers, and makes some timely recommendations as follows:

I have again to recommend legislation to rescind so much of the second section of the act of July 24, 1876, as forbids payment of mileage for travel "on any railroad on which troops of the United States are entitled to be transported free of charge." I would respectfully submit that an officer travelling without troops is not in any position to execute or carry out any policy towards these railroads. This can only be efficiently done by the Quartermaster's Department, in providing for the transportation of troops. Mileage is a substitute for payment of actual expenses to an officer travelling, without troops, under orders. The latter system reimbursed to an officer more than the bare railroad or stage fare, and gave him, under certain limitations, repayment of hotel expenses. Thus when mileage is denied to officers travelling over certain roads, more is accomplished, by this muleting of the officer, than to cause the roads "to transport the troops and property of the United States free of all cost, charge or expense to the United States." Also the officer to make use of the privilege of free transportation over such road, must obtain transportation orders in advance from the quartermaster. This could avail him if his travel was only over that road; but in purchasing in advance through tickets over long routes (having free roads on portions of the line) the railroad offices will allow nothing for such transportation orders. Thus the officer in practice not only forfeits mileage over such road, but cannot really avail

himself of free passage over it. I present these points of hardship, notwithstanding the reduction, by a recent decision of the Second Comptroller, of the number of such roads to nine, as announced in General Orders No. 58, of 1879. The anomaly remains on the statute book and should be repealed.

There appears to be a large number of the most experienced officers in favor of an increase of the pay of the sergeant-majors and quartermaster-sergeants of regiments, and of first sergeants of companies. In my annual report of October, 1876, I concurred in recommending such increase, proposed in a bill H. R. 2936 of that Congress. Since that date, experienced colonels, such as Col. H. J. Hunt, of the 5th Artillery, and Col. O. B. Willcox, of the 12th Infantry, have made such recommendations. The latter goes so far as to urge \$50 per month for sergeant-majors and quartermaster-sergeants, and \$45 per month to first sergeants.

Col. Willcox now commands the Department of Arizona, and his case forces on me the conviction that the President should, by legislation, be given the power to direct, in special cases whenever he thinks proper, payment of an officer according to his brevet rank. This would be particularly proper for an officer commanding a department or an Army in the field. The law now forbids any payment for brevet rank.

The number of deposits made by enlisted men, under the act of May 15, 1872, (Sec. 1305, R. S.), during the last fiscal year was 6,807, amounting to \$370,770.38; during the previous year the number was 5,524. This is a considerable increase in the number, but the average of the amount of each deposit is less.

The number of desertions in the Army during the last fiscal year was 1,965; in the previous year, 1,672. This increase we will hope is temporary. The number in the cavalry was 662 against 776 during the previous year; the number in the infantry was 937 against 608 in the previous year, showing an unaccountable increase of the number of desertions in that branch of the Service.

GENERAL KEARNEY.

VANCOUVER BARRACKS, Dec. 19, 1879.

To the Editor of the Portland Oregonian:

I promised to give you the true version of the Kearney story. Many a good tale is injured by corrections, and it will doubtless be the case with this one, yet this is an age when men are not satisfied with "good tales." They want facts above, below, and around them, preferring the accuracy of a retentive memory to the most brilliant flight of a daring imagination.

The celebrated battle of Fair Oaks, called by the Confederates Seven Pines, was fought on the evening of the last day of May and the first day of June, 1862. I went into action quite early in the morning of the second day of the battle; was twice wounded in the right arm. The second wound was a severe one, and caused me to leave the field about 10:30 in the day. I went to the field hospital, where hundreds of others were already congregated, and toward evening had the wounded arm amputated. Gen. Kearney, who was engaged not far from my position, and with whom I had often been in juxtaposition, so that we exchanged visits, doubtless heard of my fortune that evening. The next day I set out on foot for the depot at Fair Oaks, and met Gen. Kearney near the railroad, on horseback, who quietly dismounted and extended his hand to me. It was the right hand, of course, for he had buried the left in Mexico. I was in good spirits, as cheerful as usual, and perhaps striving not to be depressed by the pity of my comrades, so I said, in a joking manner, as my left hand clasped his right, "There is one thing we can do, General—we can buy our gloves together."

"Sure enough," he said, and then went on to say that I must not mind the loss. He declared, among other consoling things, that the ladies never noticed the lack of an arm to the disadvantage of a man.

Gen. Phil Kearney was habitually most genial and courteous in his deportment, and always treated me with marked attention and respect, so that the various stories from that time of his roughness, slighting words respecting prayer, and the like, have no place. He was quick-tempered and exceedingly sensitive.

One night, when his staff had failed to put his troops into position to suit him along the Orange and Alexandria Railroad, I saw him in a great passion. He was then in manner simply terrific. I saw him again angry after the battle of Williamsburg. He had made an advance with his usual fierce and fearless enterprise, and thought that McClellan should have given him the *crème de crème* of the fame-bearing telegram announcing the victory; but it was another who had done wonders that reaped the much-coveted reward. Then you should have seen Phil Kearney to comprehend his exhibition of vehement anger and bitter disappointment! It is impossible to estimate, much more to depict, the loss of living force which we were wont to waste in those times from want of steady, harmonious, and united action. Phil Kearney would, in my judgment, have made a most effective and dashing cavalry leader. He was crippled in energy and disappointed in action because of the slowness of infantry and the other chafing restraints of his situation. He did love brave men, such as gave best promise to make short and decisive work of the war. The remarkable contrasts of sunshine and shadow in him made him a marked man—a study. Peace to his ashes! Yours truly,

O. O. HOWARD.

THE WOOL MONUMENT.—The *Troy Times* of January 3 gives an elaborate description of the monument erected in Oakwood Cemetery to the memory of Gen. Wool, in pursuance of his testamentary instructions. The monument is a massive obelisk of granite, obtained from the Bodwell granite quarries at Vinalhaven, Fox Island, Me., and is described as being 60 feet high, weighs 100 tons, and is mounted upon a pedestal comprising three plain bases, a moulded base, a die, and neck-mould. The lower base is 17 feet 6 inches square and 2 feet thick. This and the two succeeding courses are each composed of two stones, while the fourth or moulded base, as well as each course above, is of a single stone. The height is 75 feet 6 inches. In the curve of the mould are military emblems cut in *alto relievo*, con-

sisting of a field-glass, the sword, scabbard, and hat of a major-general, all effectively grouped. The die, 6 feet high, is 9 feet square at the bottom, tapering to 8 feet 2 inches square at the top, to correspond with the lines of the obelisk, which tapers from 5 feet 6 inches square at the base to 8 feet square at the base of the pyramid, in which it terminates, the altitude of the latter being 5 feet 6 inches. The angles and upper edges of the die, together with the neck-mould, are embellished with carved Egyptian moulding, and the four sides of the die bear the following inscriptions:

Obverse.—John Ellis Wool, born February 29, 1784, died November 10, 1869.—Sarah Moulton, his wife, born July 4, 1787, died May 7, 1873.

Reverse.—This stone is erected to Major-General John Ellis Wool, the gallant soldier, the able commander, and the patriotic citizen, distinguished in many battles; and to Sarah Moulton, his excellent and worthy consort.

Right.—John Ellis Wool was commissioned in the United States Army captain, April 13, 1812; major, October 13, 1812; lieutenant-colonel, September 11, 1814; colonel of cavalry and inspector-general, 1816; brigadier-general, 1841; brevet major-general, 1847; major-general, 1862.

Left.—Queensdown, October 13, 1812; Plattsburg, September 11, 1814; Buena Vista, February 22 and 23, 1847; Norfolk, May 10, 1862.

The obelisk stands near the western border of Oakwood Cemetery, upon one of the highest points, from which a most commanding view can be obtained of the surrounding country.

DINNER OF THE AZTEC CLUB.

It was agreed at the last regular meeting of the Aztec Club, which took place in September last, that a complimentary dinner should be given to General Robert Patterson, who has been the President of the club for more than thirty years. The dinner was given at Delmonico's, New York, on the evening of Jan. 6, and it was a very enjoyable affair.

Twenty members of the club were present, viz., Generals Hancock, Cady, Patterson, Wm. Preston, Prince, Palmer, Tower, Hamilton, Sheppard, Frost, Hagner, Alvord, Drum, Gibson, Porter, and W. W. H. Davis, Colonels Harcastle and Simons, Dr. Coppée and Professor Kendrick.

The invited guests were Generals Augur, Cullum, Schofield, W. F. Smith, Thos. L. Crittenden, and Robt. Patterson, Jr.; Col. Mitchell and Capt. Wharton, of Gen. Hancock's staff; Wm. C. Church, Mr. Wickliffe Preston, and Mr. Geo. W. Childs.

Gen. Hancock, the Vice-President of the club, presided, and Gen. Patterson had the seat of honor on the right of Gen. Hancock. Of course the dinner was gotten up in the best style of Delmonico, and after the appetites of the gentlemen were in some measure appeased, there was the usual amount of post prandial remarks. Gen. Preston made a most forcible speech, and short speeches were also made by Gens. Hancock, Schofield, Crittenden, W. F. Smith, Tower, Gibson, Dr. Coppée and Professor Kendrick. General Patterson replied to the short address of welcome by the Vice-President in his usual and happy manner, and few persons would suppose, on listening to his firm voice, or on looking at his still erect figure, that he could have nearly completed his ninetieth year.

Gen. Patterson was born in County Tyrone, Ireland, on the 12th of January, 1791. He came to this country when he was quite young, and he commenced his military career in our Regular Army as a lieutenant of infantry in 1813. After the close of the war of 1812 he resigned from the Army to enter into mercantile pursuits, and by his good judgment and industry he soon accumulated a fortune. At this time he supervises the operations of a dozen or more large manufacturing, and some hundreds of men and women are kept in his employ. He is regularly at his office at six in the morning, and he bids fair to remain for some years longer the honored President of the Aztec Club.

The Secretary of the Society, Prof. Coppée, read a number of letters from members unable to be present, including this from Gen. Sherman:

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY OF THE UNITED STATES, }
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 24, 1879.

General W. S. Hancock, U. S. A., Governor's Island:

MY DEAR GENERAL: I beg to acknowledge the compliment of an invitation to unite with the Aztec Club in doing honor to the venerable Major-General Robert Patterson at a dinner to be given at Delmonico's at seven P. M. on January 6.

It will be physically impossible for me to come on that day. I regret it extremely, for there is no man in America for whom I entertain more respect and affection than for General Patterson. His whole life—now measured by eighty-eight years—has not only been noble and patriotic in an eminent degree, but it has been a type of honorable industry and of the practice of the finest social qualities.

He is in history a strong link between the men who built up this Government and those who saved it in the cruel Civil war. In every epoch of this century we find his name associated with the bravest and best in peace and in war, ready at all times with his pen, his purse, and his sword to sustain the right. He does possess and enjoy at this moment more of the respect and affection of his comrades and fellow countrymen than any living man; and I pray that his life may be spared to the last minute allotted to man on earth.

When you meet him at Delmonico's please explain to him why I am not there, as well as the love and affection I bear him as a gentleman, as a citizen, and as the oldest representative of our honorable profession in all America. Truly your friend,

W. T. SHERMAN.

"A Lady's Life in the Rocky Mountains" is the title of a very interesting book, by Isabella L. Bird, descriptive of her travels and sojourn in those interesting regions. The work consists of a series of letters written from time to time, the first one of September 2, being dated from Lake Tahoe, and the last one from Cheyenne. The letters are exceedingly graphic in description, and the various incidents related amusing and instructive. G. P. Putnam's Sons are the publishers.

(Correspondence of the Army and Navy Journal.)

THE CADETS' NEW YEAR'S FROLIC.

THE boys at West Point, or some of them at least, had a good time on New Year's eve, or early on New Year's day.

They had an immense amount of fun in collecting their material for their illicit frolic, and when their preparations for the grand surprise were successful, and more particularly after they had succeeded in lighting up the plain by fireworks and in waking up the whole surrounding country by the firing from the siege battery, they were, for the space of fifteen minutes, supremely happy. The post trader will hardly be able to supply the paper upon which the cadets—principally of the fourth class—will write to their sweethearts and mothers of this wonderful lark, which will pass into the history of West Point by the side of the famous duck stealing frolic of the winter of 1841, when the Superintendent, Major Delafield, more familiarly known as "Old Dick," lost all of his fat muscovies and the other poultry that had been carefully preserved for his Christmas dinner. The raid at that time was not confined to the *basse cour* of the superintendent, for we think that Claudy Bérard's turkey—the same inconvenient bird that was a little too much for one, and not quite enough for two—went with the ducks.

It was "Dicky's ducks" that did the business for the boys, for perhaps the matter would have blown over if the superintendent had not been despoiled. As it was there was no end of investigations and "worrings," but nothing was ever discovered of the perpetrators of the theft. Some of the old officers of the Army can probably tell who ate up the ducks and what became of the feathers.

The result of this last boyish frolic will probably be that some privileges will be taken away from the cadets and much discomfort produced by increasing the cadet guard, and perhaps by keeping the sentinels on all night at the barracks. Then the New Year's eve calls, which have been so charming as to make the boys burst their buttons off with delight, may be considered by Gen. Schofield as unnecessary, in fact, impossible.

It is exceedingly doubtful whether these bursts of youthful exuberance are productive of any thing but ultimate discomfort to the cadets. It is true that the plebes, who are beginning to count the days which must elapse before they shall become full fledged yearlings, and who are brimful of health, blood and hash, are crazed by the fun they have had in kicking up such a rumpus; but it will be an old story in a few days, and the only satisfaction they will have will be in trying to think whether that sort of thing pays, as they walk post at night instead of getting into their comfortable beds.

It is said that this New Year's affair was organized by the first class. This we doubt, for the reason that those who are about to graduate have, as a general thing, lost their taste for these breaches of discipline. It is true they are still boys themselves, but in point of steadiness there is as much difference between a plebe and a first classman—I mean the general run of them—as there is between a frisky bull calf and the dean of the herd.

If the seniors at the Academy did organize this affair, it was an ungenerous act, for those who are to be left behind them when they graduate will probably be curtailed in some of their privileges, and particularly of the privilege of having short leaves of absence during the holidays. The superintendent will not again be likely to run the risk of having a cart load of fireworks and powder brought into the barracks by the good boys who have been permitted to go to see their mothers at Christmas.

WEST POINT.

AMERICAN SMALL ARMS.

(Extracts from an article by Wm. C. Church, in *Scribner's Monthly* for January.)

The reduction in cost of arms manufacture has not been obtained at the expense of quality. It has, on the contrary, been accompanied by a steady improvement in workmanship. The use of machinery compels the employment of better material. At his examination, in 1852, before the Parliamentary Committee in England, Col. Colt, the inventor of the revolver, was shown a Minie rifle, presented as a superior specimen of French handicraft.

"Do you consider," he was asked, "that the muskets made in the United States equal this?"

"There are none so badly made at our armories," was the reply. "That arm could not pass any of our inspectors."

This was no idle Yankee boast, and it was equally true of the Enfield-made breech-loaders, sent to the Providence Tool Company twenty years later as models to be followed in fulfilling the Turkish contract. These were so improved upon that Turkey has secured a much better arm than that used in the English service.

The reason is simply this: though the Enfield guns were honest and strong in workmanship, and made of excellent material, as are most English productions, even their model arms show a lack of finish not to be tolerated here, where the perfection of automatic machine-work is obtained, at a far less cost than the less perfect hand-work. As Col. Colt stated on the occasion referred to, it cost them less in the United States to complete a gun-stock than it did in England to buy the wood for one.

Though armories everywhere have been compelled to avail themselves of American invention, nowhere has the use of machinery reached the development that it has here. Out of 800 men employed by the National Arms Company at Birmingham, in 1875, 110 were found to be at work with hand-files. A comparison with a similar armory in this country showed that of 1,600 men but 11 were filers, or one-twentieth of the proportion employed in England. Forty years ago, it is to be noted, a large part of the work on guns made in this country was done by the hand-file or on the grindstone. Year

by year machinery has been adapted to new uses, until hand-work has become almost unknown. So entirely are iron, steel, and wood reduced to their final proportions by the positive and regulated action of drills, reamers, broaches, and cutters of various kinds, that in a thoroughly organized armory the operations on an arm, from the minute when the material first encounters a machine, are exactly numbered, as well as classified. These operations are termed "cuts," and the amount of work required for the production of a particular arm is indicated by the number of cuts needed to complete it. Each succeeding process is the well judged result of careful experimenting, directed to the end of economizing labor, and perfecting either shape or size. With the present efficient and exact machinery the final process leaves the part so perfectly finished that a file is seldom needed.

The Peabody-Martini gun has sixty-nine parts, and for each part a set of gauges is provided, not omitting even the smallest screw. The double set of gauges to accompany the machinery for making two hundred needle guns per day in the Prussian arsenals cost nearly fifty thousand dollars, and the amount expended by the Providence Tool Company in perfecting their system of gauges was a fortune in itself. Not only was the first cost very large, but the most accomplished artisan known to the company was employed to superintend a force of eighteen expert mechanics, whose duty it was to see that the gauges were kept up to the standard. Of each gauge or set there were two, a maximum and a minimum, the rule being that a part should not be less than the minimum or up to the maximum. Not only was there a double set of gauges for each part, but each of the 826 cuts required to complete the arm was tested by its peculiar standard. The preservation of the gauges is a most important matter. The standard set was kept carefully locked up in a special safe, as large as a good-sized room. To each contractor was furnished a partial set from which he worked, and another set was divided among the inspectors of the various parts. The gauge used to determine the calibre of the chamber was renewed daily, to avoid even the infinitesimal change in its proportions, resulting from the slight friction to which it was subjected.

The superior quality and marked uniformity of the military arms made in the United States, are due, in part, to the thorough system of inspection to which they are subjected. By the courtesy of our War Department, the foreign governments, who have purchased so largely during the past fifteen years of our American armories, have been able to make use of ordnance officers and experts from one of the national arsenals as inspectors of finished arms. Among the bills passed at the last session of Congress was one authorizing a young ordnance officer, Lieut. Henry Metcalfe, to accept a decoration bestowed upon him by the Turkish government for such services. During the execution of the great Turkish contract, at one time nearly fifty inspectors were employed under his direction in the examination of the guns, besides the twenty-six Turks overlooking their work. The inspection at Providence was more thorough than any previous one, and examination of any one of the Turkish Peabody-Martini used in the late war with Russia, would show upon each of its sixty-nine parts, two impressions of a minute stamp, indicating that the United States examiner had subjected it to careful observation and tested it by gauge.

ENGLISH ADOPTION OF THE BREECH-LOADING SYSTEM.—The adoption of breech-loading ordnance, a step which has been practically determined by the committee of inquiry, whose report only is awaited before commencing the manufacture of the new weapons, is to extend not only to naval guns and other heavy guns of position, but also—at least experimentally—to the light field guns of the Royal Horse Artillery and field batteries, and, indeed, to all descriptions of artillery in the service. Examples of the various systems of breech-loading most favored by the representatives of the War Office are exhibited at the proof department of the Royal Gun Factories, but it is not yet known which of these is to be preferred. Upon one of these systems, however, a battery of field guns is to be made for trial under the ordinary conditions of active service, but there is little expectation that breech-loading will be generally adopted for field artillery, in which arm the qualities of simplicity and safety possessed by muzzle-loaders are especial advantages. These considerations have given place to expediency in discussing the armament of the modern battle ships, and artillerymen generally are now convinced that the only practical plan of rendering these ships thoroughly effective is the thorough acceptance of the breech-loading principle. It has been clearly shown that a ship's battery, now capable of working only ten guns of a given size as muzzle-loaders, can accommodate and efficiently work 24 smaller guns loading at the breech, with room to spare, and to this fact may chiefly be attributed the recent conversion of the English gun-makers.—*Iron.*

"TOWARD the latter part of the war," said the Colonel, "bands became rather scarce in the Confederate service, and we were rarely regaled with the strains of martial music unless it was from the Federal forces. On the retreat from Sharpsburg, during a brief halt, the weary soldiers, as was their custom, flung themselves down on either side of the road for what rest they could get. Just at this juncture came trudging down the centre of the road a solitary musician with a big bass-drum. His appearance excited the liveliest emotion, among the boys, which finally found vent through a tall, tallow-faced North Carolinian, who, bringing his piece to the ready, halted the astonished musician, at the same time drawing out: "Say, mister, can't you come down here a piece an' play something kinder soothing on that air thing—for a sick man?"

(Contributed to the Army and Navy Journal.)

THE WATCHER.

He, the Invisible, watcheth
Thy ship at sea.
Outspread
Are His hands above thy head,
Sheltering thine and thee!

He, the great, merciful God,
When thou dost sleep,
Unheard
Walketh the sea, and by His word
Commandeth all the deep.

He, the eternal Savior,
When storms increase,
May will
The loud ocean to be still,
By only saying "Peace!"

ESMERALDA BOTTLE, the Author of *Thistle Down*.
BALTIMORE CITY, Dec. 20, 1879.

REMINISCENCES OF OLD WASHINGTON.

THE recent sale of the furniture of the late Mrs. George Parker, which took place at the spacious C street residence, Washington, will revive in the minds of quite a number of the older officers of the different branches of the Service, some very curious recollections. Years ago there were great balls and routs and receptions at the C street house, which will be remembered as among the most remarkable of any entertainments that have ever been given in Washington.

Mrs. Parker was a celebrity. She was a wonderful example of what a clever and pretty woman can do when she has determined to make a position for herself in the world, from which her early life and surroundings would seem to utterly debar her.

Fifty years ago the triangle which is bounded by New York avenue, H and 12th streets, was a tan yard, which was "run" by two brothers, George and William Cover. A little rivulet which had its rise somewhere out by the Bede farm, ran along H street, and furnished a happy home for the bull frog, and a feeding ground for the ducks and geese of the free people of color who lived in that vicinity, besides furnishing water for the use of the yard.

The Cover family consisted of George, who had lately become a widower, his brother William, two daughters, and several nephews and grandchildren.

Mary, the eldest daughter, had, at a very early age, married a rather prosperous butcher by the name of Walker, who soon died, leaving his widow with two small children. She was a bright little body, this widow, and as pretty as she was intelligent. Before she was twenty-four years old she was courted and won by Mr. George Parker, who kept a grocery store on Market space.

By this marriage Mrs. Walker had decidedly improved her social position. Mr. Parker was perhaps the most prosperous grocer in Washington, and being a good business man, and of excellent habits, he was on the high road to fortune. Mrs. Parker found herself in the possession of a comfortable home, and she determined that she would not lead the humdrum life of a grocery keeper. She would not only make her way into society, but she would make society. In a year or two she had quietly cut loose from the set in which she had formerly moved, and she had, by her prudence, beauty, and tact, and by a system of entertainments, surrounded herself with people who were considered well up, if not at the top of, the social scale. Mr. Parker continued to prosper in his business and to adore his wife. He removed to the large house at the corner of C and 4th streets, and in twenty years after his marriage with the pretty widow, the entertainments at his house were celebrated for being the most elaborate and elegant that had ever been given in Washington. Mrs. Parker had accomplished what she determined to do years before, that is, make herself a leader, if not a maker, of society. But *Quos Deus vult perdere prius dementat*. In an evil hour Mrs. Parker committed an indiscretion that caused the loss of her prestige, and from which she never entirely recovered.

Mrs. Ashley, widow of Gen. Ashley, and who was in a short time to become the wife of Jno. J. Crittenden, had long been known in Washington society. She was a lady of fine presence: she had been thrown into the first society of the country for many years. She happened to be in Washington at the time of one of Mrs. Parker's receptions, and she wrote a polite note to beg an invitation for some young ladies who were under her care, and who were anxious to see Washington society. Mrs. Parker wrote in reply to Mrs. Ashley that her "list of invitations was entirely complete." "Well," said Mrs. Ashley, when she read the note, "now I am crushed indeed!" Mrs. Ashley was too much of a lady to complain, but she kept the note to show to her friends, and the consequence was that the butcher's stall, the tan yard, and the grocery were exhausted as matters of conversation.

Mrs. Parker had several children by her second marriage. One of her daughters married Mr. Bouligni, member of Congress from Louisiana, and another married Dr. Maury, son of the Lieut. Maury who was one of our naval officers distinguished for his scientific qualifications. I believe that a son of Mrs. Parker, young Walker, was appointed a midshipman in the Navy. The proclivities of the family were secession, and when the troubles came on in 1861 they passed out of view. Extravagant living had sadly impaired Mr. Parker's fortune; then reverses came, and he went into perfect seclusion. His troubles and mortifications had impaired his mind, and two sons who tried to carry on his business for him made a complete failure. Bouligni and Dr. Maury both died, and Mrs. Bouligni married an English gentleman, who has taken her to Australia.

A year or two since Mr. Parker died, and in two months afterwards his wife followed him to the grave, and nearly every trace of the family has passed away.

EBBITT.

THE WARREN COURT OF INQUIRY.

This court re-assembled, pursuant to the orders of the War Department, at Governor's Island, Monday, Jan. 5th, in the rooms set apart for the purpose. Colonel Tower, of the Engineers, having been relieved as a member, the court now consists of Generals Hancock, Augur, and Newton (who relieved General Tower), with Major McMillan, of the 2d U. S. Art., as Recorder. General Warren was present at the re-assembling. General Warren's appeal to the Secretary of War is dated November 18, 1879. In it, after asking for the Court of Inquiry, he said:

"The length of time which has passed since the battle (Five Forks) requires, for a proper consideration of my request, that a brief statement should be made of my part in it, and also of my efforts during this time to obtain an investigation. Early in the morning of April 1, 1865, the Fifth Army Corps was detached from the left wing of the Army of the Potomac under Major-General Meade, where it had previously been, and, joining with the command of Major-General Sheridan, fought with him the battle of Five Forks, where we won a victory remarkable for its completeness. After the close of the battle, while at the head of my Army Corps, directed by me throughout the continuance of the battle, and led by me in the final assault, in which latter my horse was fatally shot, with several thousand prisoners, twelve battle standards, and a battery of artillery in our hands, with no armed foe in sight, I received about 7 p. m. a written order from General Sheridan relieving me, and directing me to report in person to Lieutenant-General Grant. This order came without any assigned reason, nor had there been any real discordance between us. Surprised, I sought General Sheridan and asked him what it meant, to which his only reply was 'Obey the order.'"

"I proceeded at once to General Grant, ten miles distant, reaching there about 10 p. m. He told me he had given General Sheridan the authority to relieve me if he thought necessary, but gave no reason for its use on this occasion. I then proceeded to General Meade's headquarters, and next morning, April 2, I received from General Grant an order assigning me to the command at City Point and Bermuda Hundred. The Bermuda Hundred lines and Richmond and Petersburg were evacuated by the enemy that night, and on April 3 I was given command at Petersburg, which I retained until April 8. While thus stationed at Petersburg the newspapers came from the North announcing 'Warren relieved of his command on the field of battle,' thus creating a widespread, injurious, although erroneous, popular belief, which only the positive denial of one's superior officer, or through refutation before a Court of Inquiry, could remove. On April 9 I applied for such an investigation. Before this communication was answered I was assigned, May 3, to the command of the Department of the Mississippi. Believing from this act and from having received no answer to my application that I would be vindicated by my superior officer, which would render the Court of Inquiry unnecessary, and wishing to stand fairly in the field I was about to enter, I asked permission to publish my application for an investigation, which was authorized by General Grant, who said that 'it is impossible at this time to give the court and witnesses necessary for the investigation.'"

"I proceeded to the headquarters of the Department of the Mississippi at Vicksburg, where vigorous measures were taken to prevent any of the enemy crossing the Mississippi into Texas, and remained there till all the forces in the field had surrendered. Wearied with continuous service in the field since the war began, and unable to stand the summer heat of that latitude, I was in absolute need of rest. For this purpose I should have asked for a leave of absence, but owing to the existence of General Orders No. 79, Adjutant-General's Office, May 1, 1865, I believed that my resignation was the only honorable course left to me. On May 19 I forwarded my resignation. The acceptance reached me on June 5. No official accusation appeared against me until the publication of General Sheridan's report in the *Army and Navy Official Gazette* of June 13, 1865. In this there is one imputation made against my conduct during the operations of the night between March 31 and April 1, one for movements on April 1, preceding the battle, and one during the battle. . . . My official report was rendered early in the year 1866. With the facts thus before General Grant, I requested Senator E. D. Morgan, of New York, personally to urge the General to order the investigation I had applied for. He did so, but the Court of Inquiry was refused. I then made application for a Court of Inquiry to the President of the United States, in a communication dated May 1, 1866. Mr. Stanton, Secretary of War, at once said I should have it; but the next day he sent for me and told me there were great difficulties in the way, and suggested delay. I again urged it, but no action in this matter resulted during the remaining troublous days of President Johnson's Administration. Upon General Grant being inaugurated President of the United States, further application was deferred, because his positive decision upon the application already barred all prospect of his entertaining its consideration. During the time that has passed my detractors have not allowed the matter to rest. Whenever an occasion has presented they have brought it up. . . . It is not too late to correct the gross injustice under which I have suffered so long. The needful witnesses of the facts still live. Common justice to my public record as a soldier, and my rights under the Articles of War, demand, it seems to me, that my request for a Court of Inquiry, respectfully made at the earliest moment after the event and urged for action on every available occasion heretofore, as well as now, should be granted."

General W. T. Sherman indorsed General Warren's appeal as follows: "The Honorable Secretary of War, having asked my opinion of the inclosed appeal, I must say that the long-endured imputation on the fair fame of General Warren warrants the Court of Inquiry he has repeatedly asked for, and which has thus far been denied him."

On Tuesday and Wednesday the court sat and got the case in proper shape so as to proceed with the examination of witnesses. On Wednesday afternoon it was decided to summon General Sheridan, but he being absent on leave, some time may elapse before he may appear. The court met again on Thursday, and after completing its proceedings up to date, adjourned until such time as General Sheridan could be present.

In his official report of the battle of Five Forks, Gen. Sheridan gives this explanation of his action in the case of Gen. Warren: "I understood that the Fifth Corps, when ordered to report to me, was in position near S. Dabney's house, in the angle between the Boydton road and the Five Forks road. Had Gen. Warren moved according to the expectations of the Lieutenant-General, there would appear to me to have been but little chance for the escape of the enemy's infantry in front of Dinwiddie Court-house."

After narrating some of the movements of his command on the morning of April 1, Gen. Sheridan said, further: "I directed Gen. Merritt to demonstrate as though he was attempting to turn the enemy's right flank, and notified him that the Fifth Corps would strike the enemy's left flank, and ordered that the cavalry should assault the enemy's works as soon as the Fifth Corps became engaged, and that would be determined by the volleys of musketry. I then rode over to where the Fifth Corps was going into position, and found them coming up very slowly. I was exceedingly anxious to attack at once, for the sun was getting low, and we had to fight or go back. In this connection I will say that Gen. Warren did not exert himself to get up his corps as rapidly as he might have done, and his manner gave me the impression that he wished the sun to go down before dispositions for the attack could be completed. . . . During the attack I again became dissatisfied with Gen. Warren. During the engagement portions of his line gave way when not exposed to a heavy fire, and simply from want of confidence on the part of the troops, which Gen. Warren did not exert himself to inspire. I therefore relieved him from the command of the 5th Corps, authority for this action having been sent to me, before the battle, unsolicited."

THE DEATH OF J. WILKES BOOTH.

A CORRESPONDENT of the Lansing (Mich.) *Republican* tells anew the story of the shooting of J. Wilkes Booth, the assassin of Abraham Lincoln. Booth and Harold had been driven into a barn. Several calls were made upon them to surrender. To these Booth paid no attention, but Harold begged and entreated in the most piteous manner to be let out, and the lieutenant ordered him to put his hands out of the door, which was partly ajar. He stuck his hands out, the lieutenant caught hold of him, pulled him out, and immediately closed the door. Harold was turned over to two soldiers. He kept making assertions that he knew nothing about Booth, and Conger threatened to tie him and gag him if he did not stop his noise. This had a quieting effect. It had been decided to fire the building, so that Booth would be driven to the small door, where, it was thought, he could be easily captured.

Another parley ensued. Lieutenant Baker again made the demand for his surrender. Booth said:

"Who are you, and what do you want of me? It may be that I am being taken by my friends."

The lieutenant said: "That makes no difference, we know who you are and want you. We have fifty men armed with carbines and pistols around the barn, and you cannot escape."

After a pause he said: "Captain, this is a hard case, I swear. Give a lame man a chance. Draw up your men twenty yards from the door and I will fight your whole command."

The lieutenant replied: "We did not come to fight, but came to take you, have got you, and you had better surrender."

Booth replied: "Give me a little time to consider." The lieutenant said: "Very well, take time. You can have five minutes."

He was heard to come toward the door, or near the door. As he came he said: "Captain, I believe you are an honorable and brave man. I have had a half dozen opportunities to shoot you, and have a bead drawn on you now, but don't wish to do it. Withdraw your forces a hundred yards from the door, and I will come out. Give me a chance for my life, captain, for I will not be taken alive."

Lieut. Baker said: "We have waited long enough. Now come out, or we will fire the barn." Col. Conger then said: "We had better fire the barn," and to this Lieut. Baker gave his consent. Booth said, in his peculiar stage tone, "Well, my brave boys, prepare a stretcher for me, then." After a pause of about half a minute, he was heard to say, "One more stain on the glorious old banner."

Just as he ceased speaking, Col. Conger applied a match to some hay which he drew through a crevice, and in an instant the inside of the building was a blaze of light. The lieutenant then opened the door to give him a chance to come out, and from his position on the outside could see every movement made by Booth. He seemed to be leaning against the harrow, supported by his crutches, with his carbine in his hand. He sprang forward toward the fire with the seeming intention of shooting the man who touched the match. But the intense light inside the building prevented him from seeing objects in the darkness without. He then turned, and with the aid of one crutch came rapidly in the direction of the door, but halted about the centre of the floor. Here he drew himself up to his full height, and seemed to take a survey of the terrible situation. He looked first at the roaring flames, and then his glaring eyes rested on the open door. He resembled an infuriated wild beast at bay. A cloud of smoke rolled to the roof, swept across the room, then came down to the floor on the other side, and he appeared to be standing in an

arch of fire and smoke. He remained but an instant in this position, and then dropped his remaining crutch, with his carbine in one hand and a pistol in the other, he dashed for the door. When within about ten feet of the opening the crack of a pistol was heard from the rear of the barn, Booth reeled forward, threw up one hand, dropped his carbine, and fell face downward on some hay which was scattered on the floor.

Lieut. Baker rushed in, followed by Col. Conger and young Garrett. The lieutenant not knowing how fatal the shot, seized him by the arms, intending to secure him in case he had only been stunned. On turning Booth over, Lieut. Baker found a pistol in his left hand, which he still held with a vice-like grip, and it required great strength to wrench it from him. A leathern belt was around his body, with a bowie-knife and another revolver in it. Lieut. Baker then accused Col. Conger of shooting him, which the colonel denied, and said "Booth shot himself." This, the lieutenant claimed was impossible, as he saw him every moment from the time the hay was fired until he fell. Col. Conger said "the man who did shoot him shall go back to Washington under arrest." Upon further inquiry it was ascertained that Sergt. Boston Corbett fired the shot from a navy revolver, through a crevice in the rear of the barn. This was a most difficult feat to perform, for the ball struck Booth on the side of the neck, a little back of the centre, and passed entirely through, breaking the spinal column. The fire was making such progress that Booth was taken out of the building and carried a short distance and placed under a tree. He began to show signs of life. Water was dashed in his face, and a little poured in his mouth.

His lips began to move, and he faintly whispered, "Tell mother—tell mother." He seemed to gain further strength, and then in a more distinct voice said: "Tell mother I died for my country."

Day was breaking, and the heat from the burning barn was so intense that the wounded man was removed to the piazza of the house. The young ladies brought out a narrow straw bed, and on this Booth was placed. A cloth soaked in ice-water and whiskey was placed in his mouth, which revived him. He opened his eyes, seemed to take in the situation at once, and said: "Kill me! Oh, kill me quick!" The lieutenant said: "No, Booth, we did not want to kill you, and hope you will recover. You were shot against orders." He then was unconscious for several minutes, when he again revived. His chest heaved, his chin dropped, he put out his tongue, and seemed to wish to know if there was blood in his mouth. He was assured there was none, and then said: "Tell mother I died for my country. I did what I thought was best." He showed no signs of life in his body below the wound, with the exception of the action of the lungs. He said, "My hands," when one of his hands was raised so that he could see it, and it was bathed in ice-cold water. His hand was placed by his side, and he said, "Useless, useless!" which were the last words of the dying assassin.

Col. Conger gave Sergt. Corbett a stinging reprimand, and said to him: "Why did you shoot without orders?" The sergeant took the position of a soldier, saluted the colonel, and with right hand pointing upward, said: "Godalmighty ordered me to shoot." At this reply the colonel mellowed in his manner, and said, "I guess he did."

BILLS BEFORE CONGRESS.

The following bills have been introduced and referred to the proper committees:

H. R. 2417. To provide for the appointment of naval constructors, and assistant naval constructors, with the rank and pay as officers of the Navy. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That section 1402 of the R. S. be amended by inserting the words "and assistant naval constructors" in the 3d line, after the words "naval constructors," so that the section shall read: "The President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, may appoint naval constructors and assistant naval constructors, who shall have rank and pay as officers of the Navy."

H. R. 2437. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That the Secretary of the Treasury be, and he is hereby, authorized and directed, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, to settle and pay to the several persons comprising the crews of the steamer *Champion*, numbers 3 and 5, or their legal representatives, for the time they were each held as prisoners of war, including the necessary time it took them to reach their homes after their release, at the same rate or pay per month they were each receiving at the time they were captured; also for commutation for rations for same time, to be settled and paid upon proper applications to be made under this act, and passed upon by the proper accounting officers of the Treasury.

H. R. 2512. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That section 1 of the act entitled "An act to increase pensions in certain cases," and approved June 18, 1874, shall be so construed as to include all soldiers and sailors who have lost the use of their arms by resection of the bone, and so disabled that they cannot use artificial limbs.

H. R. 2519. To increase the pensions of certain pensioned soldiers and sailors who are utterly helpless from injuries received while in the United States service. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That from and after June 17, 1878, there be allowed and paid to all soldiers and sailors referred to in an act entitled "An act to increase the pension of soldiers and sailors who have been totally disabled," approved June 18, 1874, the same increase that is provided in an act entitled "An act to increase the pensions of certain pensioned soldiers and sailors," approved June 17, 1878.

H. R. 2526. For the relief of certain pensioners. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That all pensioners now on the pension-rolls, or who may hereafter be placed thereon, by reason of the amputation of either arm, or by reason of having been totally and permanently disabled, by execution or otherwise, in either arm, shall receive a pension at the rate of \$37.50 per month from the date of the approval of this act.

2527. To authorize assimilated rank to warrant officers of the United States Navy known as ship-carpenters. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That the President of the United States is hereby authorized, if in his judgment it shall be conducive to the interests of the service, to give assimilated rank to the warrant officers of the Navy known as ship-carpenters, as follows: First 10 years' service to rank with ensigns; after 10 years' service to rank with masters; at the age of 62 to be retired with the rank of lieutenant. For the first 10 years to be known as master carpenters, after 10 years' service to be

known as chief carpenters in the United States Navy, and the names borne on the lists of the Navy Register as such.

H. R. 2529. Relating to bounty. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That section 13 of the act entitled "An act making appropriations for sundry civil expenses of the Government for the year ending June 30, 1867, and for other purposes," passed July 28, 1866, be, and the same is hereby, amended by adding at the end thereof the following words: "The provisions of this section shall apply to soldiers who, after two years' service, have been discharged for promotion."

H. R. 2540. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That the first section of an act entitled "An act amending the laws granting pensions to the soldiers and sailors of the war of 1812, and their widows, and for other purposes," approved March 9, 1878, is hereby amended by striking out the word "fourteen" in the sixth line of section 1 of said act, and inserting in lieu thereof the word "one."

H. R. 2544. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That the sum of \$433,000 be, and the same is hereby, appropriated, out of any funds in the Treasury of the United States not otherwise appropriated, for the purpose of erecting a dry-dock at the naval station, League Island.

H. R. 2619. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That in all cases where a soldier in the U. S. Army, in the late war for the suppression of the rebellion, shall have served out the time of his enlistment and secured an honorable discharge, said soldier shall be entitled to all the benefits of the various bounty and pension laws passed by Congress, and the Adjutant-General of the Army is hereby directed in all such cases, when any such soldier shall have been reported as a deserter or absent without leave, to so amend said report as to show that said soldier was honorably discharged at the close of the war or his term of service, it being the intention of this act to give all soldiers in the United States Army who served during the war of the Rebellion and were honorably discharged therefrom all the benefits of the bounty and pension laws, and to correct the records so as to show they were honorably discharged.

H. R. 2699. Fixing the fees of examining surgeons. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That a fee of \$3, and no more, shall be paid to each examining surgeon for each examination of a person as provided by law.

H. R. 2717. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That in all cases where application for a pension by a soldier under the existing laws of the United States is made on account of disability, and which disability was occasioned by any cause while confined in any prison as a prisoner of war, proof of such disability, and the cause thereof, need not be established by witnesses who have a personal knowledge of the cause of such disability, but proof that the applicant at the time of his capture was apparently sound and in good health, and that on his release from such prison the disability actually existed, and that the same continues at the time the application aforesaid is made; and on such proof being made the pension shall be allowed, anything in existing laws to the contrary notwithstanding.

H. R. 2788. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That the President of the U. S. be, and he is hereby, authorized to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, from the officers of the Navy or the Marine Corps, a judge-advocate-general of the Navy, with the rank, pay, and allowances of a captain in the Navy or a colonel in the Marine Corps, as the case may be. And the office of the said judge-advocate-general shall be in the Navy Department, where he shall, under the direction of the Secretary of the Navy, receive, revise, and have recorded the proceedings of all courts-martial, courts of inquiry, and boards for the examination of officers for retirement and promotion in the naval service, and perform such other duties as have heretofore been performed by the solicitor and naval judge-advocate-general.

H. R. 2866. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That in all cases where corrections in the distribution of prize money have or may become necessary, and in all cases where the names of parties entitled to share in prizes have been or may by error be omitted from the prize-lists, the Secretary of the Navy is hereby authorized to direct the proper accounting-officers of the Treasury to correct and pay the same, the former upon the principle that the provisions of the act in force at the date of final adjudication govern distribution, and the latter to receive their proportion of the prizes claimed, the same as all others of like rank and pay who may have been paid (using for such purposes any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated), said payments to be made out of the naval pension fund.

H. R. 2872. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That the naval hospital located at the city of Annapolis, in the State of Maryland, with all the grounds and appurtenances thereto belonging, be, and the same is hereby, transferred to the care and custody of the Secretary of the Treasury to be occupied and used as a marine hospital.

H. R. 2926. To extend the provisions of the arrears of pension act approved March 3, 1879, to pensioners under special acts of Congress. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That section 2 of the act of Congress approved March 3, 1879, shall apply to the case of all pensioners enrolled as such by virtue of special acts of Congress granting pensions to soldiers of the war of the Rebellion and their legal heirs.

H. R. 2935. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That all pensions which have been granted under the general laws-regulating pensions or by special act of Congress granting pensions, or may hereafter be granted in consequence of death from a cause which originated in the United States service during the continuance of the late war of the Rebellion, or in consequence of wounds, injuries, or disease received or contracted in said service during said war of the Rebellion, shall commence from the date of death in the service or discharge from said service of the person on whose account the claim has been or shall hereafter be granted or from the termination of the right of the party having prior title to such pension: *Provided*, That the rate of pensions for the intervening time which arrears of pensions are hereby granted shall be the same per month for which the pension was originally granted.

H. R. 3009. *Be it enacted, etc.*, That the difference between waiting-orders and sea pay shall be allowed to the volunteer officers of the Navy mustered out under the act of Congress approved February 15, 1879.

COMMODORE W. B. WHITING, U.S.N., in a letter to the Chicago Appeal on the subject of trusting boys, says: Somewhat more than fifty years ago, I was appointed a midshipman in the Navy, and ordered to New York. I was only fourteen years old, and being of delicate make and small stature, did not look more than eleven. My previous life had been spent in the country, and I knew nothing of city ways or business proceedings. Pay day was the 30th of the month, but I wanted some money on the 20th, and, passing through Wall street, I went into a broker's office, and said, "You lend money here, do you not?" "Yes," the broker replied. "Well," continued I, "I want to borrow twenty dollars for ten days." I did not then understand the quizzical manner with which the broker looked at me for a few seconds, before replying—"You shall have it, and I won't charge you interest for it either. What's your name?" He gave me the money, and I signed a receipt; and, I need not add, the twenty dollars were promptly returned at the expiration of the ten days. I am sorry that I have forgotten the name of the broker. I mentioned the incident many years afterward to a gentleman, who said it was the most extraordinary story he ever heard of a Wall street broker.

THE NAVY.

RUTHERFORD B. HAYES, *President and Com'der-in-Chief*

RICHARD W. THOMPSON, *Secretary of the Navy.*

JOHN W. HOGG, *Chief Clerk.*

DAVID D. PORTER, *Admiral of the Navy.*

STEPHEN C. ROWAN, *Vice-Admiral of the Navy.*

BUREAU OF ORDNANCE—Commodore William N. Jeffers, *chief*;

Commander Alex. H. McCormick, *assistant*.
BUREAU OF EQUIPMENT AND RECRUITING—Captain (with relative rank of Commodore) Earl English, *chief*; Lieutenant Emory H. Taunt, *assistant*.

BUREAU OF NAVIGATION—Captain (with relative rank of Commodore) William D. Whiting, *chief*.
BUREAU OF YARDS AND DOCKS—Captain (with relative rank of Commodore) Richard L. Law, *chief*; Commander George C. Remy, *assistant*.

BUREAU OF MEDICINE AND SURGERY—Surgeon-General (with relative rank of Commodore) Philip S. Wales, *chief*; Surgeon Adrian Hudson, *assistant*.

BUREAU OF PROVISIONS AND CLOTHING—Paymaster-General (with relative rank of Commodore) George F. Culter, *chief*; Paymaster Chas. P. Thome, *deputy*; Captain William B. Remy, *Marine Corps, Acting J. A. G.*

BUREAU OF STEAM ENGINEERING—Engineer-in-Chief (with relative rank of Commodore) William H. Shock, *chief*; Chief Engineer Henry W. Fitch, *assistant*.

BUREAU OF CONSTRUCTION AND REPAIR—Chief Naval Constructor (with relative rank of Commodore) John W. Easby, *chief*.
JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL—Captain William B. Remy, *Marine Corps, Acting J. A. G.*

SIGNAL OFFICE—Captain Clark H. Wells, *chief*; Lieutenant Edward W. Very, *assistant*.

HYDROGRAPHIC OFFICE—Captain Samuel R. Franklin, *superintendent*; Commander Allen V. Reed, *assistant*.
NAVAL OBSERVATORY—Rear-Admiral John Rodgers, *supt.*

NAVAL ASTRONOMY—Rear-Admiral John Rodgers, *supt.*
NAVAL ASTRONOMY—Rear-Admiral John Rodgers, *supt.*
NAVAL ASTRONOMY—Rear-Admiral John Rodgers, *supt.*

FLAG OFFICERS AFLOAT.

NORTH ATLANTIC—Rear-Admiral R. H. Wyman.
SOUTH ATLANTIC—Commodore Andrew Bryson.
EUROPEAN STATION—Rear-Admiral John C. Howell.
PACIFIC STATION—Rear-Admiral C. R. P. Rodgers.
ASIATIC STATION—Rear-Admiral T. H. Patterson.

COMMANDANTS NAVY-YARDS AND STATIONS.

Commodore John C. Beaumont, Portsmouth, N. H.
Commodore George M. Hanson, Boston, Mass.
Commodore J. W. A. Nicholson, New York.
Commodore Peirce Crosby, League Island, Penn.
Commodore John C. Feibiger, Washington, D. C.
Commodore Aaron K. Hughes, Norfolk, Va.
Captain George E. Belknap, Pensacola, Fla.
Commodore E. R. Colburn, Mare Island.
Commodore Edward Simpson, Naval Station, New London, Ct.
Commodore Thomas Pattison, Naval Station, Port Royal, S. C.

COMMANDANT MARINE CORPS.

Colonel Commandant, Charles G. McCawley.

NAVAL VESSELS IN COMMISSION.

WHEN AND WHERE LAST HEARD FROM.

* *Iron-clads*: a. s., Asiatic station; e. s., European station; n. s., North Atlantic station; p. s., Pacific station; s. s., South Atlantic station; s. s., special service. The iron-clad *Aias*, Comdr. H. B. Seeley, *catskill*, Lieut. Jos. Marthon; *Lehigh*, Lieut.-Comdr. Geo. R. Durand; *Mahopac*, Lieut. Wm. W. Rhoades; *Manhattan*, Lieut.-Comdr. C. M. Anthony, are laid up at Brandon, Va.

ADAMS (p. s.), Commander John A. Howell. Mare Island. Repairing, and nearly ready for sea.

ALARM* (s. s.), Lieut. R. M. G. Brown. New York. The trial of the Mallory steering device, applied to this torpedo boat, has been delayed beyond its anticipated date, by the necessity of considerable changes in the main engines of the vessel. Such dock trial, of a very partial degree, as have been made, promise well for the success of the invention.

ALASKA (p. s.), Capt. George Brown.

Supposed to be now at Arica.

ALBERT, Comdr. Chas. L. Huntington. Shanghai.

ALLIANCE (e. s.), Commander A. R. Yates. At Norfolk Navy-yard, where she is to go into the dry dock.

ASHUELLOT (a. s.), Comdr. Mortimer L. Johnson. At Shanghai.

COLORADO, Capt. Bancroft Gherardi. Receiving Ship, New York.

CONSTELLATION, Captain Henry Wilson. Gibraltar, Dec. 15.

CONSTITUTION (s. s.), Captain Oscar F. Stanton. Arrived at Martinique Jan. 3, and will remain there two weeks before proceeding to Santa Cruz. All well on board.

ENTERPRISE (e. s.), Comdr. Thos. O. Selfridge. Arrived at Alexandria Nov. 10.

FORTUNE (s. s.), Norfolk, Va.

Came out of the dry dock last week. Was put in order, and after taking on coal and supplies, went to Brandon to the iron-clads.

FRANKLIN, Capt. Jas. H. Gillis. Receiving Ship, Norfolk.

INDEPENDENCE, Capt. Wm. P. McCann. Receiving Ship, Mare Island.

INTERPID (s. s.), Lieut. Francis H. Delano. New York.

JAMESTOWN (s. s.), Comdr. Lester A. Beardslee. Sitka, Alaska.

KEARSARGE (n. a. s.), Comdr. Henry F. Picking. Port Royal.

Arrived at St. Jago de Cuba Dec. 15, in search of the schooner *White Wing*, of which nothing had been heard. Expected to leave the following morning.

LACKAWANNA (p. s.), Capt. Ralph Chandler. Private information reports her at Sandwich Islands. All well.

MARION (n. a. s.), Comdr. Francis M. Bunce. En route to South Pacific Station.

MICHIGAN (s. s. lakes), Comdr. Geo. W. Hayward. Erie, Pa.

MINNESOTA, Capt. Stephen B. Luce. Apprentice Ship. Wintering at New London.

MOSOCACY (a. s.), Comdr. Geo. W. Sumner. Shanghai.

MONTAUK*, Lieut. George M. Book. Washington, D. C.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, Commo. Thos. Pattison. Store Ship, Port Royal.

NIPSIC, Comdr. C. M. Schoonmaker.

Sailed from Norfolk Dec. 30, for St. Thomas and La Guayra. The following are her officers: Commander C. M. Schoonmaker; Lieutenants, J. S. Newell, A. B. H. Lillie, J. D. J. Kelley, Nathan H. Barnes, Chas. F. Norton; Master, Chas. E. Fox; Ensigns, Richard Henderson and Chas. M. McCartney; Midshipmen, T. D. Griffin and Albert Gleaves; Surgeon, John W. Coles; P. A. Paymaster, J. Q. Barton; Chief Engineer, David Smith; P. A. Engineer, David Jones; Asst. Engineer, Theo. F. Burgdorf; Cadet Engineers, W. M. McFarland and John H. Baker; 2d Lieut. Marines, Jesup Nicholson; Pay Clerk, Frank Lee Denny; Boatstain, John H. Brown; Carpenter, Henry Rigby.

ONWARD (p. s.), Lieut. Comdr. F. M. Gardner. Store Ship, Callao, Peru.

PALOS (a. s.), Lieut.-Comdr. Jas. G. Green.

Left Shanghai Nov. 8 for Tientsin.

PASSAIO*, Comdr. Jas. D. Graham. Receiving Ship, Washington.

PAWNEE (n. a. s.), Mate Jos. Reid. Hospital Ship, Port Royal, S. C.

PENSACOLA (f. s. p. s.), Capt. K. Randolph Breese. Callao, Dec. 13.

PORTSMOUTH, Lieut.-Comdr. A. S. Crowninshield. Training Ship.

POWHATAN (n. a. s.), Capt. Daniel L. Braine. New York.

QUINNEBAUG (e. s.), Comdr. Norman H. Farquhar. At Villefranche, Dec. 10.

RANGER (a. s.), Comdr. Robert Boyd.

Left Yokokama Nov. 7 for San Francisco.

RICHMOND (f. s. a. s.), Capt. A. E. K. Benham. Shanghai, Dec. 1.

RIO BRAVO (s. s. Brownsville, Texas), Lieut.-Comdr. Chas. F. Schmitz.

SARATOGA, Comdr. Robley D. Evans. Training Ship, Washington.

SHENANDOAH (f. s. a. s.) Capt. Robt. F. R. Lewis. Montevideo.

St. LOUIS, Captain Joseph P. Fyffe. Receiving Ship, League Island.

St. MARY's, Captain Henry Erben. N. Y. School Ship. Swatara, Commander W. T. Sampson.

Was put in commission at Boston Dec. 24.

TALLAPOOSA (s. s.), Lieut. David G. McRitchie. Arrived at Boston Jan. 5. She returns from there, via New York, to Washington.

TICONDEROGA (s. s.), Comdr. Bartlett J. Cromwell. Commodore Shufeldt reports, under date of Nov. 21, the arrival of this vessel at Muscat on the 18th, direct from Aden.

He had a very satisfactory interview with the Sultan of Muscat, and expected to sail on the 22d or 23d of November for Abu-Shahr, the only sea port of importance belonging to Persia in the Gulf. The health of the officers and crew continues good.

TENNESSEE (f. s. n. a. s.), Capt. D. B. Harmony. Sailed from New York for Norfolk, Jan. 7.

TRENTON (f. s. e. s.), Captain John Lee Davis. Villefranche.

TUSCARORA (p. s.), Comdr. John W. Philip.

VANDALIA (n. a. s.), Comdr. Richard W. Meade. New York.

WABASH, Capt. S. Livingston Breese. Receiving Ship, Boston.

WACHUSETT (s. s.), Comdr. Byron Wilson. Rio de Janeiro.

WYANDOTT*, Lieut. Conway H. Arnold. Washington.

WYOMING (e. s.), Comdr. John C. Watson. Gibraltar.

VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

The French man-of-war *Chateau Renaud* arrived at New Orleans Jan. 4.

The United States Light-House steamer *Manzanilla*, Lieut. W. L. Field, U. S. Navy, in charge, arrived at San Francisco on the evening of Dec. 6, all well. She left New York on Oct. 26.

On Jan. 2, a young man by the name of Henry Parsons, a boat builder in the Norfolk Navy-yard, while using a circular saw lacerated his left hand terribly, severing the third finger entirely.

WITHIN the last twelve months a very considerable number of cargo steamers has been lost; sometimes with all hands, while at others a greater or less number of the crew has been saved. Bad stowage of the cargo is supposed to be the trouble in many cases.

JAMES RILEY, a foreman of the U. S. S. *Adams*, was recently killed at the Vallejo Navy-yard by falling from a gang plank and striking his head against a wooden float between the ship and the wharf. He was buried in the naval cemetery in Vallejo.

CADET MIDSHIPMAN SMITH SALISBURY was tried by Court-martial under authority of act of Congress "to prevent hazing at the Naval Academy," approved June 23, 1874, and having been found guilty, was dismissed from the Naval Academy on Jan. 3, 1880.

WIRES are being put in from the Observatory to the Navigation Office in the Mare Island Navy-yard for the telephone connecting at that point with the main line, which now extends down as far as the Hospital, and north as far as the Ordnance building. The central office is in the office of the captain of the yard, in the office building. Efforts are being made to connect the Navy-yard with Vallejo by a submarine cable.

REAR-ADMIRAL JOHN C. HOWELL, commanding the United States naval force on the European Station, writes to the Secretary of the Navy, under date of Villefranche, Dec. 10, that the United States flagship *Trenton* had just arrived at that port, from Gibraltar. He also reports that the *Enterprise* arrived at Alexandria, Nov. 10, and that the *Quinnebaug* arrived at Villefranche on Dec. 10. The health of the squadron on the date of writing was excellent.

The Italian frigate *Garibaldi*, Capt. Marini, arrived at Callao, Peru, Dec. 6. Some of her crew while on liberty in one of the Chilean ports, came into conflict with the troops. A severe fight took place, several lives were lost on both sides, and a number were wounded. The cause of the trouble is said to be the phantom iron-clad which the Chilean papers assert has been sold to Peru by the kingdom of Italy. The *Thetis* has gone to Arica, where the U. S. S. *Alaska* is probably by this time. It is very humiliating to our naval officers to see our poor old cripple of a ship amongst all these modern vessels, but it is still more so to think of that wretched old tub, the *Shenandoah*, barely floating an admiral about in the South Atlantic. It would be well perhaps to man a ship with Congressmen.

and send her out to cruise. All well on board, and also on board the *Alaska* at last accounts. A Pacific branch of the Naval Institute is in active operation, nearly all the officers of the *Pensacola* are members. Rear-Admiral C. R. P. Rodgers is vice-president, and T. B. M. Mason corresponding secretary.

ADVISES have been received at the Navy Department from Iquique, Peru, stating that an American citizen, named A. L. Gordon, who has been held as a prisoner at Iquique since June last, has been received on board the United States steamer *Alaska*. Gordon was arrested on a charge of being a Chilean spy and held a close prisoner by order of the President of Peru. The circumstances connected with the release of Gordon are reported by the commander of the *Alaska* as follows: "Learning that he was almost in a state of starvation, I called on Colonel Rios, commanding the city, for the purpose of requesting permission to send a supply of provisions to the prison for the use of Gordon. To my great surprise Colonel Rios said that I could bring the prisoner on board of this vessel. I accepted the proposition, and Gordon was delivered to me by Colonel Rios."

NAVY GAZETTE.

ORDERED.

JANUARY 3.—Lieutenant R. B. Bradford, Master Edward M. Hughes and Ensign V. L. Cottman, to examination for promotion.

Chief Engineer H. L. Snyder, Passed Assistant Engineers J. A. B. Smith, E. Magee and E. T. Philippi, and Assistant Engineer A. B. Willets, to hold themselves in readiness for sea service.

Passed Assistant Engineer John F. Bingham, to the Navy-yard, Boston.

Assistant Engineer George B. Ransom, to special duty at the Delaware Iron Works on the 12th January.

JANUARY 5.—Captain T. S. Fillebrown, to special duty at the Navy Department to prepare a history of the part taken by the Navy in the war of the States.

JANUARY 6.—Surgeon J. R. Tryon, to special duty on the 15th January in attending officers of the Navy and Marine Corps at New York and Brooklyn not otherwise provided with medical aid.

JANUARY 7.—Lieutenant Eugene D. F. Heald, to duty at the Naval Academy on the 15th January.

Passed Assistant Surgeon P. Fitzsimmons, at the Naval Hospital, Yokohama, Japan, to report, in addition to his present duties, to the American Consul at Kanagawa for duty, under act of June 2, 1878, to prevent the introduction of contagious or infectious diseases.

Assistant Paymaster A. K. Michler, to the training ship Portsmouth, at Washington.

JANUARY 9.—Lieutenant Henry O. Handy, to the receiving ship Wabash.

Lieutenant J. H. C. Coffin, to equipment duty at the Navy-yard, Washington.

DETACHED.

JANUARY 3.—Ensign Wm. B. Caperton, from the Tennessee, and granted three months leave from January 5.

Passed Assistant Engineer Wm. H. Harris, from the Navy-yard, Boston, and ordered to hold himself in readiness for sea service.

JANUARY 5.—Passed Assistant Surgeon Francis H. Terrell, from duty at the Naval Laboratory at New York, and ordered to the Naval Hospital, Navy-yard, Mare Island, Cal.

JANUARY 7.—Passed Assistant Paymaster John W. Jordan, from the training ship Portsmouth on the reporting of relief, and ordered to settle accounts.

JANUARY 8.—Lieutenant William S. Cowles, from duty on the Asiatic Station, with permission to return home via Europe, and on arrival to report by letter to the bureau.

JANUARY 9.—Boatswain Francis Butland, from the Onward, and ordered to the Pensacola.

Boatswain John A. Briscoe, from the Pensacola, and ordered home.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

To Lieutenant John C. Irvine for two months from December 31.

To Passed Assistant Paymaster H. T. Stancliff for six months from January 2, with permission to leave the United States.

To Passed Assistant Surgeon C. U. Gravatt, attached to the Naval Hospital, Norfolk, Va., for one month from Jan. 8.

To Mate Walter N. Smith, attached to the Standish, for twenty days from January 8.

To Gunner Robert H. Cross, attached to the training ship Portsmouth, for one month from January 3.

LEAVE EXTENDED.

The leave of Lieutenant Joseph E. Jones extended one month.

COMMISSIONED.

Master Alexander McCrackin to be a Lieutenant in the Navy from January 13, 1879.

PROMOTED.

Cadet Engineer Wm. B. Boggs to Assistant Engineer from July 1, 1877.

LIST OF DEATHS.

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Surgeon-General, for the week ending Jan. 7, 1880: William Riley, first class fireman, December 24, U. S. S. Adams, Mare Island, Cal.

NOMINATIONS.

Lieutenant-Commander Henry C. Taylor, a resident of Ohio, to be a Commander in the Navy from December 16, 1879, vice Commander Chester Hatfield, deceased.

Lieutenant Timothy A. Lyons, a resident of New York, to be a Lieutenant-Commander in the Navy from December 16, 1879, vice Lieutenant-Commander H. C. Taylor, nominated for promotion.

Master Edward M. Hughes, a resident of Pennsylvania, to be a Lieutenant in the Navy from December 16, 1879, vice Lieutenant T. A. Lyons, nominated for promotion.

Midshipman Richard T. Mulligan, a resident of New Jersey, to be an Ensign in the Navy from January 2, 1880, vice Ensign Stephen Jenkins, resigned.

MARINE CORPS.

ORDERED.

First Lieutenant Geo. C. Reid, to duty at Marine Barracks, Portsmouth, N.H., on the 15th January.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE GRANTED.

To Second Lieutenant W. F. Zellin for thirty days, and on its expiration to report at the Marine Barracks, Mare Island, California.

PLACED ON THE RETIRED LIST.

Major Wm. A. T. Maddox, from January 3, 1880.

ADMIRAL AMMEN has written a supplementary letter, dated Jan. 2, explanatory of the Nicaraguan Canal project, so as to give those interested "a succinct idea of what seems likely to promote, and what seems likely to prevent, its construction at least by an American company." The Admiral, in his letter, reviews the fact of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec being again presented as a possible line of canal construction, and a survey of it again proposed, and gives some interesting statistics of the estimate cost by that route as against the Nicaragua route, concluding by saying that the only two routes worth looking at are Panama and Nicaragua, and they only to establish the relative approximate cost of execution. Admiral Ammen has prepared a volume of about a hundred pages, which contains most useful information bearing on the question of the interoceanic canal. This volume comprises, together with Admiral Ammen's official report on the Paris Congress and with his papers read before the American Geographical Society in this city, some interesting translated extracts from the voluminous report of the Paris Congress and the special report of Civil Engineer Menocal, U. S. N., on the routes for such a canal. The work is published by Messrs. Hammersly and Co., of Philadelphia.

NAVY MUTUAL AID ASSOCIATION.—At the annual meeting of the Navy Mutual Aid Association, 94 members were reported on the rolls. The new by-laws were adopted and ordered to be printed. The following officers were elected by a unanimous vote:

President—Lieut. R. D. Hitchcock.
First Vice President—Chief Eng. R. L. Harris.
Second Vice President—Lieut. J. D. Keeler.
* Resident Directors—Comdr. H. L. Howison, Surg. A. Hudson, Comdr. W. S. Schley, Paymaster T. Caswell, Master D. L. Wilson, Lieut. M. B. Buford, Comdr. E. P. Lull, Lieut. A. M. Thacker, Lieut. Comdr. E. M. Green, Pay Inspector W. W. Williams, Major Chas. Heywood, Surg. C. J. Stuart Wells, Master Chauncy Thoma, Lieut. Chas. H. Judd, Lieut. T. Dix Bolles, Passed Asst. Eng. H. Webster, Passed Asst. Surg. H. E. Ames, Master S. L. Graham, Pay Inspector J. Adams Smith.
Non-Resident Directors—Lieut. J. H. Moore, Paymaster H. T. B. Harris, Lieut. W. F. Low, Comdr. C. M. Schoonmaker, Passed Asst. Eng. L. W. Robinson, Paymaster D. A. Smith, Chief Eng. A. S. Greene, Capt. E. Gherard, Lt. J. A. H. Nickels, Comdr. A. P. Cooke, Passed Asst. Surg. P. M. Hixey.

At a meeting of the new board, held immediately after, Lieut. T. Dix Bolles was re-elected secretary and treasurer. Messrs. Harris, Williams, and Green, finance committee. Messrs. Wells, Howison, and Buford, pension committee. The secretary informs us that the membership is increasing rapidly, and the association has now that firm, assured foundation which an undertaking of so charitable a nature deserves.

REVENUE MARINE.—The Senate, Jan. 7, confirmed the nomination of Lieut. John A. Lockwood, of the District of Columbia, to be a 3d lieutenant in the revenue service; 3d Lieut. John Dennett, to be a 1st lieutenant in the revenue service; 2d Lieut. George E. Thurston, to be a 1st lieutenant in the revenue service.

CONGRESS.

CONGRESS resumed its session, after the holiday adjournment, Tuesday, Jan. 6. The House was in session but two hours on Tuesday, most of that time being occupied with Indian affairs. Two resolutions reported by Mr. Scales were adopted, one authorizing the Committee on Indian Affairs to investigate the Ute outbreak, and the other calling for the correspondence relating to the Utes during the year 1879.

The Committee on Indian Affairs has, it is reported, practically agreed upon a bill which provides for negotiations, not only with the Utes, but with the Warm Spring, Umatilla, and several other tribes, for the extinguishment of their titles to their reservations, and their removal and consolidation upon other reservations established by law. The bill provides for the release of 27 reservations, and thrown open to settlers over 17,000,000 acres of land. Its object is to render much excellent agricultural land available to enterprising farmers, to place the Indians more directly under the control of the Government by collecting many tribes upon one reservation, and to reduce the number of agencies and employees.

H. R. 673, to regulate applications for restoration to the active list of the Navy, has passed the House. The bill provides that all applications of officers of the Navy for restoration to the active list, or for advancement to positions on the active list, and also similar applications on the retired list, as well as pay therein, shall be made to the Secretary of the Navy, who shall thereupon order a board of officers, not below the grade of the applicant, to investigate his case and report thereon; and said report, with the recommendation thereon of the Secretary of the Navy, shall be forwarded to Congress for its action thereon. No such application shall be made except as herein provided.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations reported the Military Academy bill back to the Senate, with amendments increasing the amount voted by the House of Representatives for the erection of a new hospital from \$10,000 to \$21,618, (the total estimated cost), and also adding \$1,000 for repairing the roof of the cadets' barracks, and \$315 for increased pay of Profs. Andrews and Michie.

The Army Appropriation bill is understood to be waiting in the House for the action of the Committee on Military Affairs, who are considering the subject of reorganization preparatory to bringing in a bill.

The House Committee on Invalid Pensions propose to introduce a bill giving 80 additional clerks to the Pension Office, 40 to the Surgeon-General's Office, and 30 to the Adjutant-General's Office.

A bill was introduced by Mr. Coffroth, chairman of the Committee on Invalid Pensions, to pension the survivors and widows of the officers, soldiers, and seamen of the Creek, Seminole, and Black Hawk wars. It is identical with the bill passed the last House, and which furnished the discussion about Jefferson Davis, as it repeals section 4710, R. S., prohibiting the pay-

ment of pensions to those who in any manner voluntarily engaged in, or who aided or abetted the late rebellion against the authority of the United States.

A petition from Captain Joseph Conrad, 11th Infantry, asking to the passage of an act to retire him as a colonel was presented to the Senate Jan. 6, and referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

We publish elsewhere the text of a large number of bills in the hands of committees. In addition the following have been introduced and referred:

S. 929, to repeal section 4724, Rev. Stat., (which allows both pay and pension in certain cases), and to provide that no person on the retired list of the Army, Navy, or Marine Corps shall draw a pension.

S. 933, for the relief of Lieut. E. S. Farrow, U. S. A.
S. 943, to authorize Surgeon Curtis E. Price, U. S. A., to receive the pay allowed by law for discharging the duties of physician to the Hoopa Valley Indians.

Bills have been introduced (H. R. 3112), for the relief of Wm. B. Homer, 2d lieutenant 5th Artillery; for the relief (H. R. 3265) of 1st Lieut. Fred. H. E. Ebenstein, 21st Infantry; for the relief (H. R. 3183) of Wm. McElroy, late 1st lieutenant U. S. Infantry, and making appropriations for a military wagon road from the Niobrara River via the Rosebud Agency to Deadwood, D. T., (H. R. 3228), and from Niobrara, Neb., via the post recently located near the mouth of the Minnecadusa, to Fort Robinson (H. R. 3229). These bills, with the first mentioned (3112), which went to the Committee on Claims, were referred to the Military Committee.

Mr. Ryan, of Kansas, also introduced a bill (H. R. 3201), to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to dispose of a part of the Fort Dodge military reservation to actual settlers under the provisions of the homestead laws. Referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. Beltzhoover introduced a bill (H. R. 3093), to prevent and punish the sale of fire-arms and fixed ammunition to uncivilized Indians. Referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Mr. Atherton submitted the following resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Military Affairs:

Resolved, That the Secretary of War be, and he is hereby, directed to report to this House the number, rank, names, and annual pay, of each officer of the Army of the United States on the retired list of said Army, the total amount which has been paid to each retired officer as aforesaid, and the aggregate amount paid to retired officers since said retired Army list was created.

The Senate, Jan. 7, received the following communications from the Secretary of War: Transmitting an estimate, amounting to \$8,000, for collection and payment of bounty, prize-money, and other claims of colored soldiers and sailors. Referred to the Committee on Appropriations. Transmitting a letter from the medical director of the Department of the Missouri, suggesting that the act making appropriations for the subsistence of the Army for the current fiscal year be amended so as to authorize the selling of subsistence supplies to companies, detachments, and hospitals at cost prices, not including cost of transportation, upon the certificates of officers commanding companies or detachments, or in charge of hospitals. Referred to the Committee on Appropriations. Recommending legislation to provide for the acquisition by the United States of the title to the land upon which Fort Stockton, Texas, is situated. Referred to the Committee on Military Affairs.

The House adopted a resolution directing the Secretary of the Navy to report to Congress the rules prescribed for the guidance of United States Naval vessels. Also whether the rules are in conflict with existing laws for the guidance of merchant vessels, and also what measures are necessary to be taken to establish a system of international rules for the guidance of all vessels.

MUTUAL BENEFIT ASSOCIATION, SIGNAL CORPS, U. S. A.—At the annual meeting of the Mutual Benefit Association, Signal Corps, U. S. A., held at the Chief Signal Office on Thursday evening, Jan. 6, 1880, the following officers were installed for the year of 1880: President, H. J. Penrod; Vice-President, S. W. Rhode; Treasurer, F. M. M. Ball; Secretary, N. H. Cobb; Asst. Secretary, H. L. Heiskell; Executive and Finance Committee, Messrs. Stone, Sutor, and Eickelberger. This association was organized in 1878, and is in a flourishing condition. Gen. Albert J. Myer endorsed the movement as a noble one on the part of the enlisted men in organizing for mutual protection in case of death, and the experience of the association in the past two years proves what men can do for each other, in the case of need, when properly organized. Two members of the association have died since the organization came into existence, and promptly the men scattered throughout the United States on signal, telegraph, and meteorological duty, responded with their assessments, and in both cases great benefit was rendered to the widows and fatherless in their hour of need.

THURSDAY, Jan. 8, was the 64th anniversary of the battle of New Orleans. But little notice, however, was taken of the day; but the memory of the hero of New Orleans (Gen. Jackson) is still kept green. In a recent issue of the *Commercial Col.* W. G. Terrell tells the story of his discovery since the 8th of January, 1879, of "half a ton of Gen. Jackson's military papers." The *World* of January 8 has an excellent article in regard to these papers, which it urges should be published.

"MANY Americans," writes a correspondent of the *New York Tribune*, "who accompanied the Collins expedition to the Upper Madeira, sold their \$10 Sharps rifles for \$40 and \$50." Hence he reasons that there is a great market for American arms and ammunition in South America.

"COLONEL COLT, of revolver celebrity, has just died, leaving, as was to have been expected, a large fortune to his son, who is a minor." Our friends of the *Broad Arrow* are curiously in error. Colonel Sam Colt died just eighteen years ago to-day. His son, Caldwell Colt, a very bright and genial gentleman, of excellent promise, attained his majority some weeks since, and has entered upon the enjoyment of a large revenue, though the management of the armory will remain in the able hands that have so long conducted it.

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Geo. Sykes, U. S. Army; Brig.-Gen. I. N. Palmer, U. S. Army,
Omaha, Neb.; Brigadier-General L. P. Graham, U. S. Army;
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REORGANIZING THE ARMY.

A SUB-COMMITTEE of the House Committee on
Military Affairs now has under consideration a
plan for reorganizing the Army, based in the main on
Gen. SHERMAN's recommendation of a line maximum of
25,000 enlisted men.

This sub-committee, whose duties are defined as those
of Army reorganization, consists of five members,
Messrs. J. E. JOHNSTON, of Virginia, chairman; BRAGG,
of Wisconsin; MAGINNIS, of Montana; HARRY WHITE,
of Pennsylvania, and BROWN, of Indiana. They are all
men of military experience—the chairman on the Con-
federate side in the War of the Rebellion, and the other
four on the Union side. Whether they favor the scheme
of Gen. SHERMAN will duly be known by their report to
the full committee.

The remarkable feature of the case, for the moment,
is that this sub-committee is discussing at all a scheme
of Army enlargement. Ever since 1874, the various
Congresses, at each of their two regular sessions, and at
some of the extra sessions, have discussed projects to
further reduce the Army. The point at which the work
of gradual reduction was arrested in 1874 was 25,000
enlisted men—since then, unsuccessful efforts have been
made to bring the number to 22,000, 20,000, and 15,000;
no serious attempts until now have been made to very
materially increase the Army. It is true that Secretary
McCRARY proposed in his first annual report that the
Army should be increased to 40,000 men, but no such
plan was taken up in Congress. The present plan, how-
ever, is so entirely directed to the increase of the effec-
tive, enlisted, fighting force, that it seems to us to stand
a very good chance of commending itself to a majority
of Congress.

The grand aggregate, at present, is 25,000 enlisted
men. By making this number apply to the line alone,
there will remain to be provided 290 hospital stewards
in the Medical Department, 200 non-commissioned
and enlisted men in the Engineer Corps, 400 in the
Ordnance Department, 203 non-commissioned staff un-
attached to regiments, 593 enlisted men, unattached,
and performing various duties on detail, a large and
varying number on recruiting service, and finally 300
Indian scouts. No mention need be made of the 450
enlisted men in the Signal Corps, as the act of June
18, 1878, already excluded them from the aggregate
of 25,000 enlisted men—which act ought perhaps to
be made an exception to the statement that no legis-
lation had been secured since the war for Army en-
largement.

Secretary McCrARY, speaking of the increase that
would be secured by making the line alone, exclusive
of detachments, amount to 25,000 enlisted men, said:

The Signal Corps, the ordnance sergeants, the commissary
sergeants, the West Point detachment, the prison guard at
Fort Leavenworth, and the recruiting detachments amount
in the aggregate to 3,463 enlisted men.

Gen. SHERMAN, putting exactly the same aggregate
figures still more in detail, in his annual report, says:

I earnestly recommend that you ask Congress to so legis-
late that the 25,000 men provided by law may be allowed ex-
clusively for the regiments of the line, and that special
provisions be made for these several detachments.

It is thus clear that the total increase at most will not
be a large one, and that no better scheme could well be
devised to unite all who are disposed to any
enlargement at all. Doubtless this will be coupled
with other features of reorganization; but we should
think it more desirable to let it stand on its own merits,
and without complications.

PUZZLED PEACE PRINCIPLES.

ONE of the queer incidents in the Philadelphia recep-
tion of General GRANT was the apparent disposition of
the Universal Peace Society, whose headquarters are in
that city, to claim the famous man of war as a kind of
man of peace in disguise, and as such an object for their
special attention. It seems to us entirely gracious in
them to have recognized that GRANT has put by the
sword, and also that he expressed, during his tour in
England, sentiments of weariness for the profession of
arms. Nevertheless, it was precisely because of his suc-
cesses in that profession that his tour around the globe
was like that of a conqueror, and that now he is making
a like triumphal tour through our own country. During
this latter he has been welcomed alike by both political
parties, and by the people without shadow of political
distinctions. This in itself is an indication that the
honors paid to him are for his military instead of his
political or civil career. Under these circumstances it
was rather singular to find Mr. LOVE, the president of
the Peace Society, addressing from Philadelphia this in-
vitation to the great soldier while the latter was still in
Chicago:

RESPECTED FRIEND: Many of your friends who are not
connected with military companies, and who do not seek
political positions, desire to testify their appreciation of your
eminent services in behalf of peace. . . . Lucretia Mott
and some of the veterans in the cause of liberty and peace
still remain with us, and Philadelphia seems a proper place
for a meeting of those who love the highest purposes of our
lives.

Accordingly, when Gen. GRANT went to Philadelphia,
the members of the Peace Society repaired to his
hotel, and there offered him their congratulations. While
this was pleasant, no doubt, on both sides, yet one can-
not help reflecting that the Universal Peace Union is a
society which has always frowned down the popular
tendency to pay homage to successful soldiers. The
lengths to which it has gone in this direction are not
only extravagant but grotesque. Its members have not
only declined to be "connected with military com-
panies," as Mr. LOVE deprecatingly phrased his letter
to GRANT, but have denounced military companies. In
resolutions and speeches they have not only condemned
the trade of war and all standing armies, but the parades
of militia designed for the defence of homes and the
preservation of local peace. They have pronounced
against exhibiting battle-flags in public, against teaching
the military drill in schools, against juvenile histories
that take pride in victorious battles, against raising
monuments to commemorate great battle-fields, but
above all against honoring professional fighters. Yet at
Philadelphia, not content with taking an unobtrusive
part in the reception of GRANT, mingling undistinguished
amongst their fellow-citizens, they desired a special re-
ception for themselves, in order to do honor to the man
who said "Let us have peace."

The incongruity in this case only arises from two
sources: First, from the assumption that it is wrong to
honor warriors as warriors, and secondly, from the curious
logic that because GRANT devoted himself warmly to the
work of peace and order after the war was over, he
therefore was the less a soldier. Why should General
GRANT have wanted anything but peace? MOLTEKE, a
type of the professional soldier, said, in effect, "Let us
have peace," after he had subjugated France and cap-
tured Paris. BISMARCK, the man of blood and iron, has
been engaged for many years in enforcing peace between
France and Germany. A good soldier is none the less
a patriot, a philanthropist, or a lover of peace on account
of his profession; nor does it require membership of the
Peace Union to make an American citizen tired of civil
war. It was because he had made all the war that ought
to be made, that GRANT said "Let us have peace."

Non-resistant and disarmament notions do more finely
in theory than in practice. The members of the Peace
Society felt desirous to pay honor to GRANT; but it is
because of his war services that GRANT is what he is. As
a great soldier he has been welcomed and feasted in all
lands, and perhaps even the Peace Society may inwardly
feel that if there must be armies, they would prefer those
on their side to be commanded by a GRANT.

THE WAR IN SOUTH AMERICA.

Our latest advices from Peru, to Dec. 11th, report the Chilians in complete possession of the province of Tarpica. What the next move will be cannot yet be told. Arica, or it may be Lima itself, would seem to be the next step. Political strife and contention have undermined the Peruvian government, and on the 18th of December, Gen. Prado, President of Peru and Supreme Director of the Peru-Bolivian war against Chili, abandoned his post and embarked, under an assumed name, for Panama and Europe on the steamer *Payta*, accompanied by several of his political and personal friends and associates, chiefly naval officers. He arrived in New York on Tuesday night last. In a conversation reported in the *N. Y. Herald*, Prado is reported as saying in answer to the question:

"To what causes do you attribute the signal disasters to the Peruvian arms?"

"To accident, to luck, to the fortunes of war," General Prado replied, with a significant shrug. "Peru has a larger and better army than Chili. It is true Chili had prepared herself secretly for some years past for this war, and, for that reason, was better prepared in certain respects. Her navy, particularly, was stronger. The *Admiral Cochrane* and *Blanco Encalada* were two of the most powerful modern iron-clad afloat, and built quite recently in England, at a time when Chili, no doubt, was planning this very war. Each ship bore six 300-pound Armstrong guns and had nine and a half inch iron plates. Much has been said of the *Huascar*, but she was a very small ship in comparison with these two Chilian iron-clads, and what she accomplished was mainly due to the bravery and heroism of her commander and crew. The Peruvian navy was no match for that of Chili, and the latter, having once obtained supremacy of the sea, could land her forces where she liked, thus placing Peru at once at a disadvantage. And yet the only battle of this war deserving the name that has been fought has been won by our forces—that of Tarapaca."

From our own sources we hear (Dec. 11) that Gen. Campero, with his force, some 2,000 men from the Line of the Loa, instead of moving into the interior as at first supposed, has really been advancing towards Antofagasta. The Chilians had over 4,000 men there and were confident. The Bolivians had entirely gone back on the Peruvians, and it is probable that open hostilities will soon take place between them. The Bolivians held Tacna, and Doga had even recruited his army there, and when remonstrated with, for so doing, by Admiral Montero, the Peruvian Commander-in-chief in the South, he answered that he acknowledged no superior authority but that of the President of Peru. A move to the northward by the Chilians seems to be an occurrence of the near future. The Chilians according to our account had 2,000 at the battle of Tarapaca. They lost their guns, but recaptured them all the next day. Quite a large number of Peruvians captured at Tarapaca have been sent south by the Chilians.

We are inclined to make a protest against the willingness of modern naval writers to concede that steam has taken away much of the poetry of the sailor's career—or, as the excellent prize essay of Lieut.-Commander Brown tersely puts it, that "the introduction of steam propulsion" has wrought a "destruction of the romance of the sailing frigate." Is this strictly so? Surely there is as much for the imagination to linger over, in the battle of the *Kearsarge* and the *Alabama*, as in that of the *Constitution* and the *Guerriere*. In the magnificent ocean steamers that now plough the Atlantic and the Pacific, there is nothing less noble and inspiring than in the ancient packet or the white-winged clipper; nor is the responsibility resting on the commander of a *Huron* or a *Pommernania* lessened by the fact that his ship is driven by steam. We do not conceive the ideal of the naval officer to have become one whit different from having under him a large force of stokers, whereas in Nelson's day he had sailors only. The ocean, the sailor's campaigning ground, does not alter in its perils and its possibilities, only the campaign is conducted with new appliances. Our greatest sailors in this age of steam—like Farragut—have been those who were brought up in the day of sails. The day may come when even steam will be displaced; but the new motor or the new machinery will not change the essential attributes going to the making of a great sailor.

The bill which was introduced by Mr. Whitthorne, the Chairman of the Naval Committee in the House, and which will regulate the restoration of officers in the Navy, is one of great importance, and if it can be passed in the Senate as promptly as it was in the House, the naval officers will consider themselves fortunate. This bill provides that ex-officers of the Navy who apply for restoration to the service shall have their cases examined by a board of officers to be appointed by the Secretary of the Navy, and the decision and recommendations of the board are to be sent to Congress for its information. Such a measure is equally needed for the Army. There are always many applications from ex-Army officers for restoration to the service, and if Congress were to do nothing but to go into the discussion of such cases, they

would be weeks—perhaps months—in getting rid of them. Officers of both branches of the service may have been unjustly dismissed, in fact, we know that there have been cases of great injustice, but in the large majority of cases, officers—particularly in the Army—have lost their positions fairly, and it is a great wrong to the Army to put them back. They do get back, in many cases only to go again very soon, and again they come to Washington and importune members of Congress for their restoration. Now, if these cases were examined by a board of officers appointed by the Secretary of War, and if all persons were obliged to have their cases presented to Congress only after such examination, the service would be the gainer, and the members of Congress would be saved an immense deal of worry and boring from disreputable fellows.

The temporary illness of Mr. Johnston, chairman of the House sub-committee on Army Reorganization, delays the presentation of a bill which he is understood to be preparing. It is not worth while, meantime, to speculate as to its features. So far as the general subject of reorganization is concerned, the temper of Congress is very conservative. They are learning the value of peace and quietness.

There is a prospect that the Artillery will receive a brigade organization, if Congress decides upon any change in the present organization of the Army. In that event the discussion as to the proper selection for the new grade of chief of artillery with rank of brigadier general will open. Some artillery officers are discussing the expediency of selecting Major Henry L. Abbot, of the Corps of Engineers, who has an excellent record as an artillery officer, as well as an engineer. We do not believe, however, that the President will be guilty of what Gen. Abbot would himself recognize as a great act of injustice in passing over the eminent soldiers whose long experience with the artillery gives them the first title to the selection; nor do we wish to be understood as suggesting that the idea of his own appointment, in the contingency of the creation of the new grade, has ever entered General Abbot's head.

The Court of Claims, Washington, Jan. 5th, rendered a unanimous decision in the case of Major Joseph B. Collins, U. S. A., which determines, so far as their authority goes, that the President has power to reinstate an officer, without the advice and consent of the Senate, where Congress has authorized the reinstatement. Under the authority of a special act, the President, March 8, 1878, reinstated Major Collins and placed him on the retired list. The Treasury refused him his pay, on the ground that the Senate had not confirmed his appointment. The court held that in the provision of the Constitution which declares that "Congress may, by law, vest the appointment of such inferior officers as they think proper in the President alone, in the courts of law or in the heads of departments," the word *inferior* is not used in the sense of petty or unimportant; it means subordinate or inferior to those officers in whom, respectively, the power of appointment may be vested. "Whenever, therefore, Congress thinks proper to vest in the President alone, in a court of law or in the head of a department, the appointment of any of their respective subordinate officers, it must be held that such officers are inferior officers, within the meaning of the Constitution, whose appointment in that manner Congress has the power to authorize; and the act of Congress must be respected and enforced by the Government and by the courts." The court say, in conclusion: "It is therefore clear, on principle and authority, that Major Collins's appointment was legal and constitutional, and that he is entitled to the pay and emoluments of the office which he claims, and judgment is given for the amount of pay due the claimant."

The *London Engineer*, with a sound judgment which does it credit, accepts the authority of Capt. Stephen B. Luce, of our Navy, as quite sufficient to give currency to the cut published in the *ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL* of Nov. 29, purporting to show the condition of the *Huascar* after her fight with the Chilian iron-clad. In justice to Captain Luce, it should be said that he is not to be held responsible for the accuracy of the cut, but, appeared originally in the *La Patria*, of Lima, Peru, and was sent to Capt. Luce, to whose kindness we were indebted for its use. The very full and valuable official report made to Admiral Rodgers, and of which we published the principal portion in the *JOURNAL* of Dec. 27, will show exactly what injuries the *Huascar* did receive, and the extent to which the Peruvian artist drew upon his imagination for the thing of shreds and patches,

which he presented as the counterfeit presentment of the *Huascar* after the fight. The diagram showing the position of the vessels during the battle was prepared by an officer of our Navy and was correct.

The *St. Louis Globe-Democrat* says: Great credit is due Gen. Hatch for the sound judgment he has used in the premises by selecting the hostages from among their fighting men. He has insured the safety of the settlers and has their sinews of war well in hand. The patience which he has exercised has been something remarkable. To give an idea of the fighting qualities of the Utes, it is known that the Indian who killed Lieut. Weir was only thirteen years of age. It is the prevailing impression among Coloradans that the Government would save many millions annually if they would intrust the whole Indian business to the War Department. It is regarded as a strange proceeding, that among those ordered to Washington, Gen. Hatch and Lieut. Valois, who are really the important personages of the Commission have been omitted. Gen. Hatch has endeavored to carry out the wishes of Secretary Schurz, and the country has nearly had another repetition of the Canby massacre in consequence. The only law which these Indians seem to understand is force. Ouray, whom the Department of the Interior has chosen as its oracle, has always used force to govern the Indians, instead of moral suasion, and when he has found an incorrigible one he has killed him. This gives the peace policy rather a farcical outlook. One thing is certain: it is a mistake to stop the troops. Gen. Hatch, with two regiments, would settle what now promises to be a serious outbreak for the unprotected settlements. There is but a handful of men here, and, as it is now, Hatch has only twenty-two companies, averaging fifty men each, to garrison thirteen forts in Colorado, New Mexico, and to protect the Mexican frontier against invasion. Gen. Hatch has had fifty men and 120 horses killed during the last year with his small force. He has a foe consisting of 4,500 Utes, 2,000 Piutes, 18 Navajoes, 6,000 Apaches and Pueblos, and if the Government cannot destroy this small branch of the hostiles it will lead to a repetition of the massacre already fresh in the minds of the people. Not to punish it is to invite further attacks. The people of Colorado are fully aroused in this matter.

The case of Captain E. Barrett, of the Navy, who had been nominated for promotion to the grade of Commodore, came up in the executive session of Thursday of this week, and led to considerable debate. Under the law there can be no doubt that Capt. Barrett is entitled to his promotion, but Captain Egbert Thompson, who is on the retired list, has had sufficient influence with Senators to prevent the confirmation; he, Capt. Thompson, claiming that he was illegally or unjustly retired while he was senior to Captain Barrett. Whether the retirement was or was not illegal or unjust, it is a *fait accompli*, and Captain Thompson can in no way be considered as eligible for promotion on the active list unless he is first restored to the active list by some legislative action. Should he be thus restored he certainly would have just grounds for claiming his original position on the list. In the mean time it seems hard that the promotions in the line from the grade of Captain down should be stopped. Should Mr. Whitthorne's bill regarding restorations in the Navy become a law, Captain Thompson would undoubtedly receive perfect justice at the hands of any board to which his case might be referred.

A GENERAL meeting of the Military Service Institution of the United States will be held at the rooms of the institution, Governor's Island, N. Y. H., on Saturday, Jan. 10, 1880, at 12 M., when a paper will be read by Bvt. Brig.-Gen. H. L. Abbot, U. S. A., Major Corps Engineers. Subject: "The School of Submarine Mining at Willet's Point," illustrated by maps and models. Gen. Abbot's paper is prepared with a view to afford a correct idea of what has been done and what is now doing, at Willet's Point, for torpedo defence in a general way, coupled with remarks upon the mode of applying the results in practice.

RECEIVING inquiries concerning the Chichester Rifle Co., whose advertisement appeared in the *JOURNAL* last week, we have investigated the matter and find that the "Breech-Loading Repeating Rifle" they advertise to sell for \$4.50 is an ordinary .22 calibre seven shot pistol, with the barrel lengthened about eight inches, and a walnut gun stock added. It is in reality a repeating pistol, which can be fired from the shoulder. The stock can be removed so as to use the weapon as an ordinary pistol. A subscriber writes us that the Chichester is "nothing more than a pop gun, which can be bought at any gun store for \$2.50." If the advertisement had described the weapon as "a breech-loading repeating

duty. It is supposed that he would accept a paymaster's ship, because the duties would be less injurious to his health. Capt. Dodge's feat was the handsomest performed during the operations of last year. Whether he would accept or decline an appointment as paymaster, he could not fail to feel gratified if it was offered to him as a proper and appropriate compliment.

Every military man will agree that some just and regular method should be adopted for rewarding and distinguishing officers and soldiers for special and individual gallantry in action. The brevet system, as tried in our Army, not only did not accomplish that object, but brought in its train many abuses injurious to the Service.

JUSTICE.

QUARTERMASTER SERGEANTS AND BARRACK KEEPERS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

Sir: It is hoped that House bill 2399 will not pass. We need no more non-commissioned staff grades. We have now more n. c. s. than the Government is willing to provide with decent quarters. The grade of commissary sergeant was not half as much needed as that of quartermaster sergeant, yet it was obtained and protected by law against all other usefulness.

What has always been the greatest conundrum to post commanders and quartermasters is that they can get nothing extra for their quartermaster sergeant, as such, now, but they have to call him a laborer at 20 cents a day, or a storekeeper, or invent some other subterfuge to get him some return for the most onerous and responsible duties performed at a post. His clerical duties are three times those of a commissary sergeant; his knowledge of orders has to be three times as great; and the property he is held in honor responsible for is often incommensurably greater.

But we do not need the extra staff fixed—post grade of quartermaster sergeant. Change the law so that the present supply sergeant shall serve both departments as does his commissioned superior, build him decent quarters, and give him a clerk for each department, from the command, at decent extra duty pay. Then we will not be burdened by a fixed post staff with annoying post claims strengthened by long occupancy. These clerks soon become fitted for temporary quartermaster and commissary sergeants in the field, while the permanents would monopolize all the knowledge and leave the companies barren of staff knowledge.

Another office—barrack keeper—is much needed in our Service. And it is a great wonder how our Army, so careful in accountability, has got along without it. Its absence has cost our Government thousands. The ordnance sergeant should be the barrack keeper. He should be responsible that all barracks as to construction and furnishing should be preserved unchanged, except by a designated authority.

Great sums have been expended in the construction of furniture at military posts, yet it passes away like water. Where does it go? The post quartermaster taking it up does not save it. Suppose it a fine desk, a nest of "pigeon holes" turned over to the next officer fills the column on the return; if a bedstead (as in old California times), then a cot, to be immediately condemned, took the place of the bedstead, now voyaging off to a distant station. It is said that furniture manufactured by Ogden for Riley could be found in every camp and garrison from Leavenworth to the Pacific Ocean. At length by neglects, theft, or other dishonesty it often leaves the Service altogether.

Then suppose a command changes post. The first arrivals at the new post gobble up all the chattels, and the last comer goes without, or is forced into making a complaint.

A barrack keeper would settle all this. He would reduce vastly the cost the Government is put to in making the changes in quarters required by the whim of every new occupant. He would preserve to each set of quarters its proper furniture. It would be his duty to see that no changes were made without the proper authority.

ROSEVOG.

THE BAYONET.—A writer in the Boston Advertiser on the "Sabre and Bayonet" says: Cold steel has not and never will lose its moral effect upon human nature, which is just about the same the world over. In the official report of the capture of the Zulu King, Cetewayo, it is said that when his captors produced their revolvers and threatened to shoot him if he did not immediately come along, he laughed at them; but when they pointed their naked swords at him he cried, and begged the commanding officer to take those men away, and moved off very briskly; if he showed any signs of lagging or unwilliness he was told that those men with swords would be sent after him again. During the Russo-Turkish war much of the severest fighting was done at night; both sides used the bayonet habitually fixed; and the Russians particularly would sit in the trenches, the rifles, with the bayonets fixed, resting in position for firing on the top of the crests. Lieutenant Greene in his book giving his observations and conclusions on this war, in the latter says (p. 436): "Yet in a well-conducted assault it is still possible for the assailants to reach the defenders' trench and come to hand-to-hand blows, and then the side which has the bayonet will win if the other has it not; and if one battle is won by its aid the cost of a million bayonets and all trouble entailed in transporting them have been more than repaid." A board, after setting forth the value of the bayonet generally, and the absolute necessity of the infantry and cavalry soldier carrying an intrenching tool "unanimously recommended the adoption, to the exclusion of all other bayonets and intrenching tools," the Rice intrenching knife-bayonet, as combining both to the greatest perfection with the least weight. Its name describes its uses.

The population of the globe has been recently re-estimated and may be roughly assumed at 1,421,000,000, divided thus: Europe, 309,000,000; Asia, 824,000,000; Africa, 199,000,000; Oceania, 4,000,000; America, 85,000,000. It has been calculated from the mortality tables of known countries that the annual number of deaths throughout the world is 35,693,350, or that, in other words, 97,790 persons die each day. On the other hand, the balance of population is more than kept up by births at the rate of 104,900 per day. Seventy new lives ushered in every minute of the twenty-four hours.

THE STATE TROOPS.

NEW YORK STATE.—In his message to the Legislature Governor Cornell thus speaks of the State troops:

The National Guard is represented as being in excellent condition, both in general composition and equipment. The discipline of the organization has been for several years steadily improving, and whenever its services have been required it has never failed promptly and cheerfully to perform efficient duty. Happily no necessity has arisen during the past year for active service, except in a few instances where guard duty was required at executions.

The organization consists of seven divisions and thirteen brigades, embracing the several branches of service, as follows: Twenty three regiments, six battalions, and thirty-three separate companies of infantry; one regiment and eleven separate troops of cavalry; and of artillery, one battalion, nine separate light batteries, and two batteries armed with Gatling guns. In the aggregate number there are 20,280 officers and enlisted men.

The Military Code of the State is composed of ancient enactments that have been amended from time to time as occasion required. Thus incumbered, it has become in many respects incongruous and impracticable. It is recommended, therefore, that a commission composed of officers of suitable rank in the National Guard be authorized to codify the military laws, and to revise the regulations accordingly.

In the firm belief that an effective military force, prepared for instant duty, is a useful conservator of the public peace, the National Guard is commended to your favorable consideration.

THIRTEENTH NEW YORK (BROOKLYN).—The question asked at the close of the article, 13th New York, in last week's JOURNAL, on the Austen-Cocheu case, has been promptly answered by General Orders No. 32, Adjutant-General's Office S. N. Y., as follows: Special Orders No. 130 from the Headquarters, dated July 12, 1878, dismissing the appeal of Capt. Noah L. Cocheu, from the decision of a General Court-martial, convened Feb. 1, 1878, pursuant to Special Orders Nos. 1 and 2, series of 1878, Headquarters 5th Brigade, of which court Col. James McLeer, 14th regiment, was president, is hereby revoked, and said findings and sentence are disapproved for reasons stated in opinion of the Judge-Advocate-General S. N. Y.; but inasmuch as Capt. Cocheu's position in the National Guard has been filled since said order No. 130 was issued, he is hereby honorably discharged from the military forces of this State, as of date of January 26, 1879. See opinions of J. A. G., U. S., page 151, sub. 7. The opinion on which this order is based covers grave jurisdictional questions presented since the original decision. The first question raised by Capt. Cocheu is, "that the person who convened the court for his trial was not an officer of the National Guard of the State of New York," General Jourdan, holding the office of Police Commissioner of the city of Brooklyn, and under the city charter vacated his office of brigadier-general. Gen. Hughes declines to pass an opinion on the political question, but clearly states that the acceptance of the civil office did not vacate his military one, and that the point is not well taken. The second point is based on the claim that the court was appointed by an officer who was biased and prejudiced toward the accused, and that the court was packed to convict. A very lengthy opinion is given on this point, the pros and cons being most thoroughly considered, and although the opinion does not reflect on Gen. Jourdan, the officer ordering the court, Gen. Hughes says: All courts should avoid even the appearance of wrong doing, and particularly military courts; those affected by these decisions should have no opportunity to say that the court which convicted them was packed by one inimical and prejudiced and interested to convict; in fact the real prosecutor; and further adds, with regard to the point the officer ordering the court was the real prosecutor, "this objection goes to the jurisdiction of the court. If the officer who convened the court was the real prosecutor, although not the accuser on the record, then he could not legally convene a court-martial for the trial of the officer thus accused or prosecuted. I respectfully suggest, under the facts charged, that the court committed a grave error in this regard, and one that should make void their proceedings, unless they have had full proofs and determined whether Gen. Jourdan was the real accuser or prosecutor or not, and have passed on the question." As to the objection that the stenographer of the court was not sworn, the General says that no oath of such person was returned with the record, although he was paid for his services, and that the omission was fatal to the validity of the sentence. He further adds that "if I am right in the conclusions reached there never was a competent court convened for the trial of Capt. Cocheu, and the court which did convene kept no competent or legal record of its proceedings. The objection that the officer who convened the court was the real prosecutor, if true, was one which called in question not merely the jurisdiction of the court, but its existence as a legally organized tribunal, and can be raised at any time before or after sentence. See opinions J. A. G. U. S., page 50, before cited.

"If the court was illegally and improperly convened, then all that has been done under its findings and sentence is a nullity; and the order confirming its action is a nullity, and all proceedings growing out of it are void and should be revoked.

"While it is true that the duly executed sentence of a competent court cannot be set aside by the Commander-in-Chief, still, when it appears that there has been some fatal defect in the proceedings, making the same void *ab initio*, there can be no doubt that its sentence can be treated as a nullity."

NINTH NEW YORK.—The third of the first set of battalion drills in this regiment was held at the armory on Wednesday evening, January 7, Cos. F, G, and I, being equalized into four commands, sixteen files front, with Col. Lyder as instructor. The companies were on hand at the hour of assembly, and after a most rapid equalization and formation the adjutant turned over the battalion at 8:20. The usual march for steadiness was most satisfactory, and proved that the companies have been hard at work since October last; the step was close to the prescribed limit, and distances well preserved, while the fours about and march to the rear were good. The formation of the double column of fours from line at a halt could hardly be excelled; but the deployment by two movements was somewhat broken, the left into line of the right company being very poor, and the carry at the halt ragged. The double column and its deployment were neatly done, men steady and officers prompt. In the close column movements, ployments and deployments were correctly and evenly executed, guides active, and marching steady. In the close column formations from column of fours the wheels by fours were correct, except once, when the third company executed a fours left when it should have been fours right, causing some slight confusion. Right of companies rear into column was most carefully explained by the instructor, and so impressed on the minds

of both officers and men, that on the first effort the movement was correctly executed, the company commanders giving orders in good season, and being rapid in the dress. Close column on second division left in front was the poorest movement of the drill, the trouble being caused by the first division entering the column too far to the rear, and causing a loss of time and much shuffling in the dress; the deployment was also poor, the shuffling at the dress being marked and manual faulty. During these movements the duties of guides and file-closers were sadly neglected, the former were slow; one, the right guide of Co. I, advanced at the double time, with his piece at the carry, while the file-closers invariably neglected to close in to one yard in the column. On right into line from column of fours was executed several times, marred only by the straggling manner in which the pieces were brought to the carry at the halt. The break into column and wheel into line were handsomely executed. A short drill in the manual of arms closed the evening's work. The motions of this manual were slurred and indistinct, and plainly proved that the command needs much instruction before it can reach anything like perfection. The drill throughout was a very good one, considering that it was the first of the season, the men being attentive and officers prompt. These drills will be continued next week.

SEVENTH NEW YORK.—The wear, tear, and excitement of the New Army Fair is over, and the companies of the 7th are settling down to solid work. The holidays, too, have somewhat interfered with the drills, for although the company instruction was not suspended except on Christmas and New Year's days, the attendance was comparatively light. Co. K, Captain Lenthion, occupied the main drill hall, on Wednesday, Jan. 7, the command parading 3 officers, 6 sergeants, and 90 men; total 99. The drill was but of one hour's duration, and was confined to two or three movements, being principally marching in column of fours and company front. During these marchings there was hardly a single point that the most severe critic could cavil at, the step was exactly 110 to the minute, distances in column of fours almost accurate, the changes of direction correctly executed, and the manual on the march excellent. The advance company front was also most evenly performed, and although on several occasions the movement was made with arms at the "trail," thereby to a certain extent losing the lock of elbows so noticeable in the marching of the 7th, the alignments could hardly be excelled. In executing on right into line from column of fours the men were slow, and the step somewhat broken, while at the halt, the carry arms of the fours was straggling. The dress at the close was slow and imperfect. From the column of fours a left front into line was most admirably performed, although when executing the double time it would be well for the men to lift the feet clear from the floor, and so avoid the disagreeable shuffling. At the close of these movements it was also noticed that the dressing was very slow and imperfect, in fact there was a general lack of snap in everything but the marchings. One of the most notable features in this drill, and one also noticed in the other companies of the regiment, was the precision with which the changes of direction, column of fours, are made. Usually in the execution of this movement, the fours are broken and straggled, while instead of wheeling on the ground occupied by preceding fours the left of the column, almost invariably, incline towards the side of the marching flank, and end by destroying step and distance. During this drill, however, the fours marched square up, and during the wheels the provisions of par. 59 Tactics, were strictly adhered to, consequently step and distance were most accurately preserved. The drill closed with a few movements of the manual which, although correctly executed, were wanting in life and spirit. The drills of the 7th regiment are always severely criticised by officers and men of other organizations, and every little point and fault picked out and criticised as a weakness of the regiment, but has it ever cost these same critics one thought of the time and labor expended by officers and men in keeping the 7th up to its present high standard of drill and discipline? As one specimen of how the effectiveness of the command is maintained, we would state that, although but two companies were ordered for drill on January 7, it was observed that the captains of four other companies were present for duty in uniform, while lieutenants were prowling about, seeking for an opportunity to aid and assist in the work of teaching squads, the set up, goose step, and manual. Night after night is this repeated, the average attendance of officers at armory during the drill season being four out of the seven nights of each week. When the officers of other organizations of the State are ready and willing to devote even two nights per week to the instruction of their companies, then we may indeed hope to see a small share of the drill and discipline of the 7th in other regiments.

OHIO.—The inauguration of Governor Foster takes place January 12 at Columbus, and it is the intention on that occasion to have a parade of the National Guard of the State. A circular has been issued from General Headquarters to commanders of regiments, troops, batteries and unattached companies of the National Guard, inviting them to canvass their respective commands for the purpose of ascertaining the number who will attend the inauguration and participate in the parade. A battalion from the 15th regiment of Cleveland and the City Troop will be present. The military staff of the Governor as appointed by him is as follows: Adjutant-General, W. H. Gibson; Asst. Adj.-Gen., S. B. Smith; Judge-Adv.-Gen., W. C. Cooper; Quartermaster-General, Louis Seasonood; Surg.-Gen., I. N. Boach; Chief of Engineers, W. C. Lemert; with ten aides-de-camp from different portions of the State. Governor Bishop, the retiring Governor, in his annual message to the General Assembly, in speaking of the National Guard, after referring to the personal attention he had given to the Guard by way of attending encampments, inspections, reviews, etc., says: "From all these sources my information is such as to enable me to say that since the beginning of the present administration, under the management of the Adjutant-General, heartily supported by the officers and soldiers of the service, and the passage of necessary appropriation bills by the Sixty-third General Assembly, the organization has risen from its almost helpless and worthless condition to that of the equal of any National Guard of the United States for active service."

RHODE ISLAND.—The following inspections have been made by Gen. Charles R. Dennis: Co. C, 5th Battalion, Central Falls, presenting 2 officers and 36 men. Arms and property in very fair condition, but drill and discipline of company deficient, company formation very poor and improper, manual very poor, and loading and firing very bad. More attention should be paid by officers to the set up and general appearance of the men, and much instruction in the school of the company is needed, especially by officers and guides. Co. D, 5th Battalion, paraded 3 officers and 31 men. Inspection ceremonies very excellent, arms and property in good condition. At roll call men do not answer to their names, but simply come to order arms, captain insisting that this is correct. Counting fours very bad, general set up and step very good, to the rear, back, and side steps well executed. Officers and guides need more thorough instruction in school

of the company. The wheelings poorly executed, pivots and guides being out of place. The inspection of Cos. A and B, 3d Battalion, took place at Westbury, Jan. 5. Co. A parading 2 officers and 25 men, and Co. B, showing 3 officers and 23 men. Inspection conducted as battalion by Lieut.-Col. J. A. Babcock, and performed in a creditable manner; but as in all the battalions greater attention is necessary to details, and a correct interpretation of tactics, which can only be acquired by minute and intelligent study. The arms and property are in excellent condition, showing vast improvement over previous years, pompons in hats badly set, which made a very poor appearance in line, the wheelings poorly executed, pivots moving out of place, and guides backing into position. The manual of arms executed very poorly, loadings and firings demonstrated the fact that officers are much to blame in failing to give proper instructions; file closers loaded and fired with the line, captains giving orders for loading and firing while standing in front of companies, and right and left guides did not move to the rear, file closers practically shooting down rear rank and all slaying officers standing in front of the fire. The inspection was preceded by review, which it would have been well not to have attempted. The centre of companies seemed to be their pivots and the guide in all directions. This battalion is composed of most excellent material; but the officers of all grades seem to fail in comprehending what proper instruction means. The armory is one of the largest and best in the State, and it would seem that the companies of the 3d battalion, stationed at Westbury, have no excuse. It is hoped that officers will have seen their errors and attempt to correct them. It is now determined that the fair of the 1st Battalion will be held in their new armory, beginning Jan. 21, for one week. The various committees are diligently at work, and everything points to success, which this organization deserves.

VARIOUS ITEMS.

— Co. C, 32d New York ("Woodward Grays"), will hold its annual ball at Turn Hall, Meserole street, Williamsburg, on Thursday evening, January 22.

— The board of officers 32d New York have elected the following officers for the ensuing year: Col. John Rueger, president; Lieut. Chas. B. Mayor, secretary; Major Louis Finkelmier, treasurer; Adj. Fred. J. Karcher, Surgeon H. Hardrick and Lieut. F. W. Paristete, finance committee.

— By Special Orders No. 1, General Headquarters S. N. Y., the 2d New York Division (Brooklyn) is again constituted, and Brig.-Gen. James Jourdan, 5th Brigade, is detailed as its commander until such time as a major-general is appointed. Col. James McLeer, 14th regiment, assumes the direction of the 5th Brigade.

— GEN. WOODWARD says that the issue of the military fund, under section 178, Military Code, State of New York, was never neglected or overlooked. The contrary impression has arisen from the issue of the allowance to regiments in November, 1879, instead of June, 1880, thus making two payments in one year.

— Co. I, 7th New York, Capt. Wm. C. Casey, wins the silver punch bowl presented by Brooks Bros. to the company of the regiment turning in the largest cash returns at the late armory fair. Co. I produced \$15,000 to the \$13,600 of Co. F. The other companies run from \$13,000 down to \$5,000.

— The officers of the newly organized Infantry Battalion (2d), San Francisco, Cal., have chosen H. D. Ranlett, the efficient commander of the Oakland Guard, as their major and commanding officer. The new battalion will probably be designated the 5th, to distinguish it from the 2d regiment. The lady friends of the new organization have presented it with a handsome set of colors.

— The 9th New York, Col. Ryder, will drill by division at the regimental armory as follows: Cos. F, G, and I, Jan. 7, 13, 20 and 27; Cos. A, D, and B, Jan. 9, 15, 22 and 28; Cos. C, K, E, and H, Jan. 6, 16, 23 and 30. These drills are preparatory to the presentation of a stand of colors to the regiment by the State, which will take place at Madison Square Garden, Monday evening, Feb. 23.

— The resignation from the service of Col. Rodney C. Ward, 23d New York (Brooklyn), was returned to him, with the following complimentary order from the Adjutant-General's office, S. N. Y.: "Col. Ward having served for the continuous period of ten years and over, and it being the desire of the Commander-in-Chief to express his high appreciation of the marked zeal and ability displayed during the long period of his connection with the National Guard, and in order that his abilities may still be available, should occasion require, it is hereby ordered that the resignation be returned, and the officer be placed on the supernumerary list and withdrawn from active service and command, in conformity with paragraph 103 of the Military Code."

— The "Swedish Guard," Co. C, 14th New York, received and entertained Rankin Post 51, G. A. R., Philadelphia, on Saturday, January 3.

— COL. H. M. BOIES, 13th regiment, Pennsylvania, has, at the request of the prominent citizens of Scranton and the officers and men of his command, asked leave to withdraw his resignation.

— The officers of the 9th New York Brigade (Albany) have elected Major T. Ellery Lord, brigade inspector, to the office of brigade commander, made vacant by the resignation of Gen. Frederick Townsend.

— DURING a New Year's call at the residence of Colonel James McLeer, 11th New York (Brooklyn), the officers of the regiment, through Adj. Clobbridge, presented their commander with a handsome gold watch chain and a badge, combining the emblems of the old 1st and 5th Army Corps, in which the colonel served during the late war.

— At the annual ball of Separate Troop A, 1st New York Division, Major Karl Klein, to take place January 21, Col. Carl Jussen, division inspector, will, on behalf of the State, present the Troop with a new guidon and a pair of trumpets.

— Co. A, 23d New York, Capt. J. G. Story, has published its roll of honor for the year 1879, in which the captain, first sergeant, one sergeant, two corporals, and four privates are mentioned as having attended all drills and parades for the year. Four members are exempt from all detail, except guard duty, for 1880, and a special compliment is paid to Priv. Geo. W. Howland, honorably discharged December 8, 1879, for having completed his term of seven years service without missing a single roll call.

— LIEUT. C. A. L. TOTTEN, U. S. Army, briefly explained his "American War Game, Strategos," to the generals and staff officers of the 5th and 11th New York Brigades on Monday evening, January 5.

— COL. SAMUEL RICHARDS, A. A. G. 5th New York Brigade (Brooklyn), has been detailed as A. A. G. 2d New York Division, and Capt. C. A. Boynton, ordnance officer 5th Brigade, has been detailed as brigade A. A. G.

— Co. G, 13th New York (Brooklyn), will give a grand concert at Plymouth Church January 14.

— CAPT. C. L. MIDDLETON, Co. G, 23d New York, has been promoted junior aide-de-camp on the staff of Gen. Molinoux, 11th New York Brigade.

— Co. F (Hartford City Guard), 1st regiment Connecticut, competed for the Veteran Association medal on Monday evening, January 5, and after a two hours' contest it was awarded to Corp. R. H. Douthwaite, the contest being in the school of the soldier, company, and manual of arms. The judges were, Brevet Brig.-Gen. H. B. Carrington, U. S. Army; Maj. A. L. Goodrich, and Capt. T. M. Smith, 1st regiment C. N. G.

— PRIV. A. WILDEZ, Co. H, 71st New York, has been promoted second lieutenant Co. I, 47th Brooklyn. The company will hold a reception, drill, and dress parade at their armory January 26.

— EX-LIEUTS. Charles O. Boyd and F. D. Palmer have been chosen captain and second lieutenant of Battery C, 1st Battalion Artillery, Melrose, Mass., January 2. Major Merrill presided.

— MR. JAMES H. WOLFF has been appointed to the vacant clerkship in the Adjutant-General's office, Massachusetts. Mr. Wolff is a colored gentleman, and served in the Navy. He has studied two years at Dartmouth College; read law in the office of Hon. D. W. Gooch; is a graduate of Harvard Law School, and has been admitted to the bar.

— THE Military Equipment Board, Pennsylvania, will meet per order of the division commander for the purpose of considering a new pattern of a great coat for the Pennsylvania N. G. In the meanwhile the troops are suffering from the inclement weather.

— THE 3d regiment, or more properly battalion, Pennsylvania N. G., it having but six companies, will elect a colonel January 14. The command is certainly very small for an officer of such rank.

— BRIG.-GEN. WARD has approved the findings and sentences of the court-martial 12th New York, Capt. Burns president. The record of fines proves that the court was a most thorough one.

— THE 9th New Jersey commenced the battalion drills of the year January 6 at Odd Fellow's Hall, Hoboken. During the month of January there will be two sets of these drills, three companies each night, under the supervision of the field officers.

— THE annual reunion of the 11th Massachusetts Battery was held January 2 at Young's Hotel, Boston, with over fifty members present.

— THE Detroit Light Infantry held its annual meeting January 5, at which President Spann delivered the annual address, congratulating the command on its progress. The secretary reported that the number of active members now on the rolls of the company is 63. There are 160 honorary members, and these consist of the foremost business and professional men in the city. The company has a surplus of cash and personal property valued at \$2,185.

— THE 71st New York will give a grand complimentary promenade concert and hop at the Madison Square Garden on Wednesday evening, January 14. The committee of arrangements is headed by Maj. McAlpin, who will be ably assisted by Dr. Bryant and Capt. Thompson, with one member from each company as a sub-committee. It is intended that the reception shall surpass any previously given by this regiment. It will be strictly social, drill, reviews, parades, etc., being ignored.

— Co. K, 14th New York, has re-elected Sergt. C. W. Luckey treasurer, Priv. R. S. Halleck secretary, Priv. J. J. Byrne sergeant-at-arms, and First Sergt. Johnson, Corporal Bridges, and Privs. Campbell, Muller and Barlow a board of directors for the present year. The first monthly reception of the season will be held by this company in the regimental armory on Wednesday evening, January 14, and promises to be a very enjoyable affair.

— Co. F, 22d New York, Capt. Gregory, celebrated its nineteenth anniversary at Hotel Monaco on January 8. It is proud to say that the company which captured the brigade prize for best attendance during the past year was out in force, and had a good time.

— Co. G, 12th New York, have elected the following officers for the new year: Secretary, J. F. Martin; Financial Secretary, Lieut. W. H. Kirby, Jr.; Treasurer, Capt. C. L. McGowan; Court-martial, Lieut. W. H. Kirby, First Sergt. Jas. J. Bushnell, Privs. Jenkins, Martin and Simmes.

— THE annual reception of the "Old Guard" at the Academy of Music Thursday evening next, January 15, promises to be the event of the season, and will eclipse all previous efforts of the Veterans.

— LIEUT.-COL. EDWARD B. YOUNG, aide-de-camp on the staff of Governor Hoyt, Pennsylvania, died at Allentown, after a brief illness, December 30. Col. Young served with distinction during the late war, and was an aide-de-camp on the staff of Governor Hartranft. His funeral took place January 3, the Governor's staff, Gen. Reeder and staff; Cos. B and D, 4th regiment; Grand Army Posts and Masonic Fraternity parading as escort.

RIFLE PRACTICE.

A correspondent of a Western paper speaks in high terms of "an ingenious system of targets," invented by Lieutenant H. G. Squiers, 1st U. S. Infantry, "which," it is said, "for accuracy of marking, safety to the markers, and simplicity, far exceeds the boasted Creedmoor system, though all the good features of the Creedmoor are incorporated in it."

On New Year's day the first competition for the gold medal and championship of Company C, 13th U. S. Infantry, was held at Little Rock Barracks, with the following results:

Capt. B. H. Rogers.....	5 5 5 4 5 4 4 5 4-45
Sergt. G. M. Brokel.....	4 4 5 5 4 5 4 5 4-44
Sergt. H. Lloyd.....	4 4 4 4 4 4 5 4 5-42
Priv. O. Hearn.....	3 4 5 4 4 4 5 4 3-39
Priv. Kathman.....	4 3 5 3 4 3 5 4 4-38
Corpl. Harney.....	5 4 3 4 5 3 4 2 3-35
Priv. Ludlow.....	3 4 5 4 5 4 3 2 4-37

and 13 other competitors.

Each competitor has ten shots. Distance, 200 yards. The medal has to be won three times to become the property of the owner. Capt. Rogers scored the highest in the match.

The annual meeting of the life members of the National Rifle Association will be held at the armory of the 22d New York, West 14th street near 6th avenue, on Tuesday evening next, January 13. The principal business will be the reading of annual reports and the election of new directors. The vacancies to be filled are those caused by the expiration of term of President Stanton, Judge Gildersleeve, Col. Scott, Major Holland and Capt. Story, and the resignation of Maj. Jones. With the exception of the president and secretary the retiring directors are mentioned for re-election; and in addition Gen. Wingate, President James Grant, of the Stock Exchange Club, W. M. Farrow, Empire Club; Frank Donaldson, New York Rifle Club; Capt. Robbins, 7th regiment; Capt. Decker, 12th regiment, and Maj. Wetmore, 9th regiment. The canvass will be a close one.

PROGRESS IN RIFLE PRACTICE—FIGURE OF MERIT, 1879.

An examination of the tabulated statement of the practice and result of the rifle drill of New York's militia for the year 1879 shows that the progress made has indeed been wonderful. The rifle practice of the National Guard was commenced in 1874 by the visit to Creedmoor of a few regiments for a day's drill with target shooting as an amusement. At that time officers and men were without experience or system, and the results were trifling when compared with those recorded this year. Then transportation, ammunition and markers had to be provided by each organization, and the expense was no light matter, while the practice was limited to what is now known as marksmen's distances—200 and 500 yards. Of course the result was most unsatisfactory; but the day's work, however bad, gave the man confidence in himself and his rifle, and paved the way for the grand showing of the present table.

The Legislature of that year (1874) passed the law forming a bureau of rifle practice, and during the summer of 1875 strong efforts were made to educate the troops. A fair showing was made at the close of the year, the 8th regiment being at the top with 40 per cent. figure of merit; the 12th, 22d and 79th regiments following with 38, 30 and 29 per cent.; the 16th Battalion and 55th regiment lowest with 20 and 17 per cent. All the regiments in the State, however, were not included in this practice. During the centennial year the visit of the foreign teams gave an impetus to the good work, and throughout the State ranges were laid out and clubs formed. These new grounds were eagerly sought out by the military, and as "Wingate's Manual" had been freely distributed throughout the National Guard the practice was steady and systematic. The great rivalry, however, was at Creedmoor, the practice being arranged in classes, commencing at 100 and ending at 500 yards, each man being allowed five scoring and two sighting shots at each range. But little change was noted in the figure of merit for 1876, with the one exception of the 12th regiment, who shot up to the high score of 62 per cent., the 8th having but 38, 22d and 71st 34, and 7th 31. The low figure reported for the year was the 27th regiment, 15 per cent. The progress in the class firing was, however, most satisfactory, and it was with pride that commanding officers pointed to the record of their regiments and companies, and in glowing terms told how their men could do execution at the short and mid ranges. The issue of the marksmen badge too was a great incentive to the practice, and was most eagerly sought after.

The tremendous increase in the figure of merit of the 12th led officers to inquire into its causes, and when it was found that a steady course of armory practice, with "indicator" and gallery drill, had brought the young beginners to the front and steadied the holding of the better shots the 12th's plan was immediately adopted, and during the practice of 1877 three regiments succeeded in far out-shooting the then wonderful figures. By this time a perfect system had been organized, special days were assigned each command early in the year, and scorers were detailed from other organizations than the one practising, so that the work should be conducted with all fairness. The result of the year was most astounding, the 71st and 9th regiments having a figure of merit of 85 per cent., the 8th 81, the 12th 63, and the 7th leaping from 31 to 58. This year the county regiments were heard from, the 48th, of Oswego, showing sixth in the list with 50 per cent. The class practice too had increased, the third class or dufters being in a glorious minority.

The steady increase in the scores led to several changes in 1878, one being a complete revolution in the computation of the figure of merit, and the substitution of regularly trained and paid scorers for the previous details. The new system of computation did away with percentages and average points—three classes; organizations were divided into four classes, each man commencing in the lowest, or fourth, and working up the marksmen's class; the ranges covered, however, remained the same—100, 150, 300, 400, 200 and 500 yards. This new figure of merit was computed as follows: For marksmen 100, first class 60, second class 30, third class 10, 4th class 0, the aggregated figures being divided by the number present and absent at last annual inspection. Added to this, the sighting shots in the marksmen's class were abolished, in order to make the qualification more difficult. In spite of these changes the practice of the year was most satisfactory, the number of marksmen being increased by 933 and a total of 3,059 as against 2,126 in 1877, while in each of the classes the figures show corresponding merit. Of the 20,000 odd men in the State but 8,049 were in the fourth class—men who had not practiced during the year.

In the tabulated statement of the figure of merit the separate companies and troops headed the list, but it is not justice to compare those with the regimental and battalion organizations. The 49th regiment (Auburn) was in reality the first with 150 marksmen and a figure of merit of 49.33, followed by the 23d Brooklyn with 212 marksmen and a merit of 47.07. The 7th New York was third with 322 marksmen and a figure of merit of 42.05. The record of this year was noted for its complete upset in the figure of merit, for the 71st and 9th, who headed the list in 1877, were eighth and eleventh respectively with 33 and 31 per cent. merit; the 8th was sixth with but 34 per cent., while the 12th handsomely held its own, and was fifth with 33.09 per cent. The 16th Battalion, of Yonkers, was fourth with 61 marksmen and a figure of merit of 39.30, this fine result being due to hard and careful practice, and much credit is due to the inspector of rifle practice and officers of that organization.

Again in 1879 were changes made, this time the sighting shots being omitted in all classes, with a reduction in the issue of ammunition and transportation. In addition to these drawbacks, through the blunder of one brigade I. R. P. (2d) who irregularly allowed sighting shots, the practice of one day was thrown out, and in a regiment (12th) who failed to follow the provisions of a brigade order, the class practice and a number of marksmen, one day's practice were disallowed. Still the record was most remarkable, showing an increase in the number of marksmen 3,641 against 3,059 in 1878 and but 7,973 in the fourth class as against 8,049 last year.

The separate companies and troops again head the list, but of the regimental organizations, the 7th has proved in rifle practice as in every other duty of the citizen soldier, the first, with 912 practising, 854 on roll, 411 marksmen, but 145 in the fourth class, and a figure of merit of 58.64; the 49th Auburn is second with 276 practicing, 358 on roll, 187 marksmen, 102 in the fourth class, and a figure of 55.11. The 16th Battalion, Yonkers, has reached third place with 42.37 per cent., the 48th Oswego fourth, 23d Brooklyn fifth, 13th Brooklyn sixth, and 12th New York, notwithstanding its loss of one day's practice, seventh. Rifle practice has now got to be one of the standards of a regiment's title to a place in the efficient organizations of the State forces, and where commands show a falling off, or a disinclination to learn one of the first duties of the soldier—how to use their rifle—a black mark should be placed against them. Of these is the 10th regiment, Albany, who, after five years, remains at the bottom of the list. With 786 men on roll it has but 51 marksmen, with 640 in the fourth class, and a merit of 9.93. The 5th New York is second last, with 627 on roll, 35 marksmen, 414 in the fourth class, and a merit 12.18, while the 69th, with 691 on roll, has but 46 marksmen, 492 who failed to practice,

and a figure of 14.08. An examination of the appended record of the infantry organizations of the State for the year 1879 will give the rifle status in detail, good, bad, and indifferent:

Order of Merit.	Organizations.	Aggregate Practice.	Total Strength.	Marksmen.	First Class.	Second Class.	Third Class.	Fourth Class.	FIGURE OF MERIT.	Figure of Merit, 1878.
1.	9th Separate Co.	72	62	56	5	1	0	0	95.64	81.30
2.	13th Sep. Co. . . .	92	92	63	0	25	4	0	77.07	64.60
3.	17th Sep. Co. . . .	69	55	32	6	7	0	10	68.54	61.63
4.	5th Separate Co.	59	101	59	2	8	13	19	63.27	50.87
5.	18th Sep. Co. . . .	36	62	30	9	4	9	10	60.48	27.37
6.	7th Regiment. . . .	912	854	411	44	190	64	145	58.64	42.05
7.	20th Sep. Co. . . .	53	89	47	0	5	13	24	55.95	42.24
8.	49th Regiment. . .	276	358	187	7	10	31	123	55.11	49.33
9.	30th Sep. Co. . . .	70	61	25	4	10	2	20	50.16	None
10.	29th Sep. Co. . . .	51	48	19	7	0	7	15	49.79	None
11.	3d Separate Co.	63	79	25	1	32	5	16	45.18	27.36
12.	11th Sept. Co. . .	40	70	27	0	13	2	28	44.43	51.87
13.	4th Separate Co.	47	70	23	8	8	8	23	44.29	18.46
14.	32d Separate Co.	153	64	18	8	10	21	7	43.59	None
15.	28th Sep. Co. . . .	93	74	30	3	0	0	41	42.97	None
16.	16th Battalion. . .	386	345	154	75	88	52	28	102	42.37
17.	43rd Regiment. . .	225	403	154	6	36	9	198	42.00	34.01
18.	24th Sep. Co. . . .	41	76	30	0	5	0	41	41.45	36.65
19.	23d Regiment. . . .	686	675	188	52	165	52	218	40.58	47.07
20.	13th Regiment. . .	667	548	119	39	144	95	151	35.60	32.36
21.	12th Regiment. . .	364	432	106	19	100	41	166	35.07	39.09
22.	32d Separate Co.	133	84	18	0	27	20	19	33.45	20.71
23.	8th Regiment. . . .	388	427	89	15	103	84	136	32.16	34.22
24.	47th Regiment. . .	469	481	98	24	122	33	204	31.66	30.93
25.	32d Regiment. . .	556	552	101	20	120	189	122	30.42	25.54
26.	2d Separate Co. . .	70	66	8	14	12	0	32	30.33	None
27.	1st Separate Co. .	55	69	18	0	6	8	37	29.85	13.47
28.	21st Regiment. . .	303	391	53	63	55	94	126	29.84	13.47
29.	10th Sep. Co. . . .	48	72	2	23	16	7	24	29.58	17.30
30.	22d Regiment. . .	496	574	104	31	135	50	254	29.28	32.22
31.	71st Regiment. . .	414	504	76	40	123	94	171	29.02	33.75
32.	54th Regiment. . .	366	492	127	4	33	30	208	28.92	24.70
33.	74th Regiment. . .	226	433	104	14	27	47	241	28.91	23.58
34.	14th Sep. Co. . . .	38	90	20	0	16	2	52	27.78	27.53
35.	14th Regiment. . .	332	460	77	26	62	54	241	25.34	27.13
36.	11th Regiment. . .	389	552	60	41	123	145	183	24.64	24.67
37.	25th Sep. Co. . . .	90	76	1	0	46	20	9	22.11	None
38.	15th Battalion. . .	257	267	27	9	68	60	103	22.02	29.04
39.	9th Regiment. . . .	454	740	90	17	127	144	362	20.63	31.46
40.	17th Battalion. . .	165	313	34	31	27	38	183	20.60	6.32
41.	19th Sep. Co. . . .	20	64	11	0	5	4	44	20.15	28.54
42.	20th Battalion. . .	113	262	32	5	44	35	146	19.74	22.00
43.	35th Battalion. . .	48	234	33	8	15	14	164	18.68	15.43
44.	65th Regiment. . .	224	423	47	14	48	60	254	17.92	14.57
45.	25th Regiment. . .	269	505	70	11	23	34	367	17.20	14.07
46.	26th Battalion. . .	93	275	18	24	25	183	16.54	6.88	
47.	51st Regiment. . .	172	489	55	19	30	51	334	16.47	6.60
48.	69th Regiment. . .	347	691	46	20	100	93	432	14.08	14.86
49.	5th Regiment. . . .	261	627	33	12	97	71	414	12.18	15.97
50.	10th Regiment. . .	213	786	51	18	43	34	640	9.93	12.87
51.	15th Sep. Co. . . .	4	86	4	0	0	0	82	4.65	11.23

It is announced unofficially that Brevet Major Joseph G. Stetson, commanding Co. A, 23d New York, has been appointed Assistant General Inspector of Rifle Practice S. N. Y., with rank of colonel. This appointment fully ranks with that of the Adjutant-General and Inspector General's departments, for Col. Stetson is one of the most enthusiastic riflemen in the State, while as an executive officer he has few equals, and no superiors. We again compliment the National Guard of New York State upon its working staff.

CONNECTICUT.—Brigade Inspector of Target Practice, Maj. Stetson, in his annual report, returns 567 marksmen in the Connecticut brigade N. G. for 1879 a gain over 1878 of 317 marksmen. The best companies in the brigade are: E, H, F, and K, 1st regiment; K, I, A, and H, 2d regiment; B, 3d regiment, and B, K, and E, 4th regiment. The highest number of marksmen in companies are:

Co.	Company	Marks.	Members.
Co. E, 1st regt. (New Britain)		68	82
Co. H, 1st regt. (Hartford)		59	82
Co. F, 1st regt. (Hartford)		57	76
Co. K, 1st regt. (Hartford)		42	82

The highest figure of merit of companies is in the 1st regiment: Co. E being 81.09, Co. H, 84.26, Co. F 80.00. Thirty-six of the forty companies of infantry are provided with ranges against twenty-eight a year ago. Thirty-one companies carried out the entire system of classification during the year. The marksmen were distributed as follows: Brigadier-general and staff 2, 1st regiment 303, 2d regiment 158, 3d regiment 20, 4th regiment 84; total, 567. Per cent. of membership qualifying as marksmen: 1st regt. 41.39, 2d regt. 25.19, 3d regt. 2.91, 4th regt. 12.64. The best scores in possible 50 in each regiment were as follows: 1st regt. 48, 2d regt. 44, 3d regt. 42, 4th regt. 49.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

J. B. T. asks to whom application should be made for appointment as apothecary in the Navy? ANSWER.—Better apply direct to the Secretary of the Navy.

ORDNANCE asks if there is a United States law in force to prevent the entering of judgment or lien against real estate, the property of an officer or enlisted man of the U. S. Army, without giving him due notice, in writing or otherwise, in a State where the local law does not require such notice to be given? ANSWER.—There is no such law.

C. S. asks: Can a commander of troops legally order a soldier to work on general fatigue day, after day and month after month consecutively, without allowing him extra duty pay? ANSWER.—The regulations contemplate that soldiers employed on the sort of labor you indicate for continuous periods over ten days shall receive extra duty pay, but unfortunately Congress does not always appropriate sufficient money to make the payments. Under the law a man so employed should receive extra duty pay, but the question of funds wherewith to make the payment seems the main consideration.

H. R. MEMPHIS, TENN., writes: In your account of the drill of Co. K, N. G., December 27, 1879, you say "the loading and firing, kneeling, both by company and platoon, were well done," etc. By what commands is the firing by platoon kneeling or standing executed, and in what paragraph of Upton's Tactics can I find it? ANSWER.—The command to fire kneeling can be found in par. 110, Tactics, and could be used in case a company was marching platoon front through a narrow street and were attacked. The first platoon could deliver its volley kneeling, which could be immedi-

ately followed by the rear or second platoon from the standing position. The commands would follow Tactics substituting platoons, etc., for company.

CONSTANT READER asks where the *Forest and Stream* and *Rod and Gun* is published? ANSWER.—111 Fulton street, or P. O. Box 2832, N. Y.

E. A. W.—Write for a price list to E. Remington and Sons, Winchester Repeating Arms Co., Sharps Rifle Co., or any other advertiser of arms in the JOURNAL.

THE THUNDERER GUN EXPERIMENTS.

THE "Thunderer Committee" resumed their experiments at Woolwich recently with a view to discover the cause of the bursting of the gun on board that unlucky vessel. Six rounds were fired for the purpose of ascertaining the effect of leaving a large air-space between the cartridge and the projectile, on the supposition that after loading the projectile in the gun on board the *Thunderer* had slipped forward. The rounds were fired under the conditions tabulated below:

No. of Air round.	space.	Charge.	Shell weight.	Muzzle velocity.
1.	2ft.	85lb.	(Common) 58lb.	1174ft. per second.
2.	do.	110lb.	(Palliser) 68lb.	1223ft. "
3.	4ft.	85lb.	(Common) 58lb.	941ft. "
4.	do.	110lb.	(Palliser) 70lb.	1013ft. "
5.	6ft.	85lb.	(Common) 59lb.	780ft. "
6.	do.	110lb.	(Palliser) 70lb.	876ft. "

The main point to be observed was, of course, the pressure produced on the bore of the gun by the powder gas in each case. The pressures were recorded as follows:

No. of round.	Pressure on bore.	Pressure on base of projectile.
1.	9.9 tons per square in.	
2.	12.7 " "	9.9 tons per square inch.
3.	4. " "	
4.	12.6 " "	8.9 " "
5.	2.2 " "	1.7 " "
6.	8.9 " "	6.4 " "

It may be observed that in the last round the point of the projectile was some 5½ feet from the muzzle. It may be inferred from these experiments, as no damage to the gun under trial has as yet been reported, that the accidental slipping forward of the projectile after loading in a 38-ton gun would not be likely to produce evil results, except, of course, as to the energy and accuracy of the projectile in its flight. Further experiments will be carried on with increased air spaces—i. e., with the projectile placed closer to the muzzle, where the pressure of the powder gas will be opposed by a more slender tube of metal. We do not anticipate any striking difference in the result. The projectile will in subsequent rounds be jammed in the bore, and should this ordeal be successfully withstood by the gun, as a final test the piece will be double loaded; and we would ask our unprofessional readers who may feel an interest in the experiments to discriminate between double loading and double shooting. It must not be forgotten that two cartridges will be placed in the bore, the powder charge thus amounting to nearly 2cwt. The value of the gun—or more correctly the cost—is about £3,000.—*Broad Arrow.*

THE TRAINING SHIP SYSTEM.—Secretary Thompson, of the Navy, is represented as being quite enamored with the training ship system of the Navy, and to be enthusiastic at its success so far. One great advantage which he expects to secure by this plan of educating boys into able-bodied seamen is that it will restore the nationality of the Navy and enable our ships to be sailed as well as officered by persons of American birth, just as the British navy is composed of British-born sailors. At present the ordinary seamen in our Navy are seven-tenths foreigners, picked up in all parts of the world, and the greater portion of them not even naturalized. Mr. Thompson hopes to be able to remodel and reorganize our entire working force of sailors by means of the training ships, the plan of which was borrowed in part from the system employed in the English navy. There are at present 1,200 boys on these ships, but Congress has authorized the force to be increased to 1,950, and, as this branch of the service is a popular one, there will probably be no difficulty in getting the additional recruits. It is expected that the system will furnish an average of about 1,500 recruits per annum to the Navy, and as three-fourths of the recruits, as an average, re-enlist for one or two terms of service, and the effective strength of the Navy is under 8,000 men, it will not take more than five or six years to supply the entire Service with an active, intelligent force of American-born young men, thoroughly trained and fully competent to do all the work that the Service requires. The Secretary is very much pleased with what he saw of the boys at the recent Hampton Roads review, where a thousand of them did military drill on the parade ground at Fortress Monroe, and there went through all the standard naval evolutions, hauling canvas, loading, tending, and firing the guns, dressing the yards, setting and furling and reefing sails, and everything else of the sort, with the promptness and dexterity of regular "old salts" and "foretopmen." The boys are represented to be healthy, well-satisfied, and cheerful: there are not one-tenth as many desertions as from the British training ships, and the discipline is not severe, though strict. Great pains is taken in the choice of instructors, and the entire training ship service seems to deserve, in a great measure at least, the encomiums bestowed upon it by the Secretary.—*Baltimore Sun.*

FROM the recent torpedo experiments made on board the English *Bloodhound* with the electric light it would appear that black painted boats are least distinguishable by the electric light, while white, red, and green were the next in order of plainness.

At a recent meeting of the Jackson Democratic Association in Washington, it was determined to celebrate the anniversary of the battle of New Orleans on Jan. 8.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

THE hanging of Moollahs by the British threatens to result in a holy war, which will bring the armed Mohammedans of the Himalayas into the field. "If," says the *London Spectator*, "the 'fanatic' feeling has really been excited in Afghanistan it will take 30,000 Europeans to garrison the country and 10,000 more to hold down the Nizam's dominions. We hope for better things, but if the Afghans, for any reason, now mean fighting, the entire situation is changed, and we have a most serious war upon our hands."

THE Russian detachment in charge of the military telegraph during the Russo-Turkish war laid down 896 miles of telegraph in the Balkan Peninsula, and 689 miles on the Asiatic seat of war. That they had great difficulties to overcome, the following account of their operations, from a German paper, bears witness: "Sometimes the roads were so bad that the carriages, drawn by eight horses, could not be moved without the assistance of a number of draught oxen. The want of telegraph poles had to be met by using the light wood of which Turkish huts are constructed, which, of course, had to be pulled down. At other times, a Cossack regiment had to oblige by the loan of their lances, upon which, at a distance of forty paces, the wire was drawn. In the most favorable cases, a little more than half a mile was erected in an hour. At night, lanterns had to be employed. Very often the scarcely constructed lines had to be pulled down again, especially near headquarters, where generally the orders of individual commanders were of a most contradictory nature, thus keeping the telegraph detachments at work night and day. At the same time, the duty of maintaining the lines was most onerous, on account of accidental or intentional damage. As a rule, the lines were laid down at a short distance from the high road. In one case, the road from Osmia to Karagatch, it had to be relaid three times. The road becoming impracticable through long-continued rains, the drivers abandoned it, and coming too near the poles, threw them down. At last there was no other remedy but to take the line through a valley at some distance from the high road, but impracticable for carriages. Very often the drivers destroyed the line by using the wire instead of rope. It also happened in the severe winter weather that soldiers used the poles as firewood. Other disturbances were caused by herds of buffaloes knocking down the poles, or by detachments of Cossacks getting entangled into the wire with their lances on passing lines, and thus pulling them down. The station of Berkovatz, at the headquarters of General Skobelev, was as much exposed as that gallant commander himself. The working telegraphists were often under fire."

THE *Broad Arrow*, referring to a disgraceful disturbance in a London restaurant, which led to the arrest of two officers, one of the Army and one of the Navy, improves the occasion to preach a little sermon about the united service rowdies; "There are, we think, two main causes for the recurrence of this pest. In the first place, then, society at large does not repress this very irrepressible character: he is constantly received whether he hails from the army (very rarely), the Bar, the University, or the vast community of 'gentlemen at large.' He is never liked, always regarded with mistrust; he is strident in conversation, loud in dress, almost invariably intemperate in habits. He is an acquisition to no society, but—he is tolerated. Secondly, he is treated with indescribable leniency by the military, and in a lesser degree by the naval authorities. In fully 99 per cent. of such cases the wisdom of such leniency does not make itself apparent. The summary dismissal from Her Majesty's service of such a worthless employee on the occurrence of the first grave case of misbehavior, might perhaps afford the delinquent a lesson which would arrest his downward career. His retention in the service not only in many cases encourages him to continue in the indulgence of excesses, condoned or marked with slight indications of disfavor by the authorities, but brings in its train the far more serious evil of the pernicious example set by him to the younger and more thoughtless of his companions, the 'white fools' of Charles Kingsley's celebrated letter on betting to the young men of Chester. The millennium may perhaps produce a soldiery of the ideal type, delineated by Mr. Ruskin in a well-known lecture, and the officers will perhaps be in keeping with their surroundings. Meanwhile there are many honorable men—manly, courteous, straightforward, and, in the highest sense of the word, English—who have built up and strive to maintain a high reputation for the officers of the British army, and yet those who should offer them every encouragement and assistance in the undertaking permit their work to be brought into disrepute by the follies and crimes of those who are utterly unfit to be their associates."

It is worthy of note that Col. C. M. Macgregor, C. B., who is mentioned as having recovered the guns abandoned by Gen. Massy in the action before Cabul on Dec. 11, performed a similar action in the China war, a feat which gained for him not only a strong though unsuccessful recommendation for the Victoria Cross, but also the high honor of being mentioned by Lord Herbert when proposing the vote of thanks to the army for its services in China. Col. Macgregor, then a subaltern, was in command of a squadron of Fane's Horse on escort with a half battery of Armstrong guns. The Tartar horsemen, according to Lord Napier's despatch, entirely surrounded this party, and for a time it was feared that the guns were lost. "The escort was almost overwhelmed by the numbers opposed to it; but Lieut. Macgregor, who was in command, undismayed by the disparity of numbers, rode at them with such a will that they broke quite through the Tartar ranks and scattered them most effectually. . . . This engagement had the effect of dispiriting thenceforward the Tartar cavalry." Three times wounded in the mutiny, Col. Macgregor was twice in that campaign mentioned for distinguished gallantry. China gave him a second medal and four extra wounds. Bhootan furnished him

with a third medal and an eighth and ninth wound. Abyssinia brought him a medal. Now, at twenty-three years' service, he finds himself a full colonel, with five war medals, the C. B., C. S. I., C. I. E., and chief of the staff to the army in Afghanistan.—*Boston Transcript*.

An order has been issued directing the return into store of all Harvey torpedoes now on board her Majesty's ships, as their use is to be discontinued.

The Cabul Valley, where the fighting is going on, is described by the London *Daily News* as the orchard of the East. Apples, pears, peaches, cherries, almonds, quinces, and mulberries are grown in profusion unknown elsewhere, while willows, poplars, and other trees form groves and hedgerows.

The scarcity of horses suitable for military purposes, has caused the question of the employment of traction engines with an army in the field to be studied with perhaps greater earnestness in Italy than elsewhere. From some lately published returns it appears that 33,000 horses would be required to complete the mobilization of the Italian army of the first line; at least 10,000 more than could be procured. In view of this a

writer in the *Revista Militare* strongly urges that 250 traction engines should be at once obtained, to be used in time of war by the supply columns of the several Army Corps; while in time of peace, in order to defray in part the expense of maintaining the necessary number of drivers, stokers, etc., the machines could, it is suggested, be let on hire to private companies and individuals.

In an article on "The Value of the Present European Infantry Rifle," the *Journal des Sciences Militaires* gives its opinion that at ranges not exceeding 1,000 metres, or at the outside 1,200 metres—within which limit the experience of the Franco-German and Russo-Turkish wars shows effective firing of bodies of infantry to be confined—the present English infantry rifle is superior to all others on account of the flatness of its trajectory; but this advantage is in some degree counterbalanced by the weight of its cartridge. The French, Austrian, Prussian, and Russian rifles come very near to it, and for all practical purposes may be considered equal to it. The rifles in use in other armies are somewhat inferior, but in the Italian rifle the defects are compensated by the lightness of the cartridge, and in the Swiss rifle by the repeating mechanism. The conclusion is that in action no infantry will have any special superiority;

the advantage will be with the troops most perfectly trained in the use of their weapons.

EVERYTHING, says the *Army and Navy Gazette*, tends to show that every one concerned was thoroughly taken by surprise by the rising of the Afghans. This remark applies equally to General Roberts and the Indian authorities. He thought he had to deal merely with a few undisciplined groups of malcontents, displaying a desultory and uncombined hostility to our rule. All of a sudden he was enveloped by forces estimated a few days ago at 30,000, and which have probably doubled their strength since.

A MACHINE gun constructed on the Nordenfeldt system for land service is being tested by the Ordnance Select Committee. It differs from the weapon selected for the navy, in having ten barrels instead of four, and in place of the large bore of the four barrels, the ten are adapted only for such small arm bullets as those of the Martini-Henry rifle. The barrels are arranged in a parallel row, which is found in some respects preferable to the rotary arrangement of the Gatling gun, and the sights are placed outside the row of barrels on either side. The land Nordenfeldt is mounted on a carriage resembling that of a light field gun, and is limbered up in like manner to a fore-carriage for transit. Other

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32d Semi-Annual
STATEMENT
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Hartford, Conn., January 1, 1880.

ASSETS.	
Real estate.....	\$735,911 87
Cash on hand and in bank.....	853,855 01
Loans on bond and mortgage, real estate.....	2,015,522 91
Interest on loans, accrued but not due.....	51,015 37
Loans on collateral security.....	3,300 00
Deferred Life premiums.....	49,320 41
Premiums due and unreported on Life policies.....	31 122 35
United States government bonds.....	277,150 00
State, county, and municipal bonds.....	318,380 90
Railroad stocks and bonds.....	409,350 00
Bank stocks.....	607,662 50
Hartford City Gas Light Co. stock.....	18,000 00
Adams Express Co. stock.....	52,500 00
Total assets.....	\$4,955,990 42
LIABILITIES.	
Reserve 4 per cent. Life Department.....	\$3,192,428 80
Reserve for reinsurance, Accident department.....	208,604 66
Claims unadjusted and not due, and all other liabilities.....	198,406 00
Total liabilities.....	\$3,659,539 46
Surplus as regards policy holders.....	\$1,296,450 96

Statistics for the year 1879.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.	
Number of Life Policies written in 1879.....	1,711
Whole number of Life policies in force.....	11,352
Amount Life Insurance in force.....	\$18,182,132 00
Total claims paid in Life Dept't.....	\$1,385,517 92
ACCIDENT DEPARTMENT.	
Number of Accident Policies written in 1879.....	54,540
Cash Premiums received for same.....	\$992,033 50
Gain in Policies over 1878.....	11,422
Gain in premiums over 1878.....	\$216,451 39
Whole number Accident Policies written.....	572,325
Number Accident Claims paid in 1879.....	7,545
Amount Accident Claims paid in 1879.....	\$395,678 30
Whole number Accident Claims paid.....	41,594
Whole amount Accident Claims paid.....	\$3,437,630 24
Total Losses paid, both Departments.....	\$4,833,146 16

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Attorney and Counsellor at Law, No. 36 Grant
Place, Washington, D. C.

Having been 3d Auditor of the United States Treasury for nearly six years, I am thoroughly familiar with the course of business before the Executive Departments at Washington. Will give Special Attention to all business connected with the Settlement of Officers' Accounts, Claims for Pension and Bounty, Claims of Contractors, and generally all business before any of the Departments, Congress or the Court of Claims. Collections made in the District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North and South Carolina. Refers to Hon. S. P. Phillips, Solicitor General U. S., Washington, D. C.; Hon. James Gilfillan, Treasurer of the U. S.; Hon. E. B. French, 3d Auditor U. S. Treasury; Hon. H. H. Hatch, 4th Auditor U. S. Treasury; Hon. S. J. W. Tabor, 5th Auditor U. S. Treasury; Hon. J. M. McGraw, 6th Auditor U. S. Treasury; Hon. O. O. Howard U. S. Army.

machine guns from America, and elsewhere, have been tried in competition with the Nordenfeldt, the superiority of which appears to have been established. Those of the heavier pattern are being rapidly manufactured at the Government Small Arm Factory, Enfield, and are sent to the Royal Arsenal, Woolwich, for issue to the ships of the royal navy. Six of them are now being prepared for the *Agincourt*.—*Broad Arrow*.

A TORPEDO boat of a new pattern has been built and engined by Messrs. Maudslay, Sons, and Field. It is 86 feet long and 11 feet 6 inches beam, and has a displacement of 28 tons. The principal feature in her construction is that she is built entirely of manganese bronze, from which it is expected that she will be protected against corrosion. Her skin is 3-16ths of an inch thick, which does not seem sufficiently strong to give her the necessary rigidity and stiffness, as she quivers very much when under way. As yet she has not realized a speed of over thirteen knots.

THE frequent mishaps incurred in the Russian navy in all weather, foul and fair, have astonished the *St. Petersburg News*. Some months ago the *Sabiaka* had a collision in the Channel, while the splendid Imperial yacht *Livadia* was wrecked in the Black Sea. A little later on his Majesty's yacht *Standard*, having on board the Czarewitch and family, ran aground within the waters of Cronstadt, while a frigate, returning home after a two years' trip round the world, stranded there likewise. Again, the steamer *Elliorus*, sent to Cannes in the autumn for the service of the Empress, ran aground in the Euxine; while quite lately the best of all the Russian cruisers, the *Asia*, was forced to enter Havre for thorough repair in consequence of injuries sustained by collision near the Channel port.

A DRAWING has been approved and sealed in England to govern the manufacture of a wrought iron carriage and platform on the Moncrieff principle for the 64-pounder muzzle-loading gun of 58cwt. (land service) converted on the Palliser principle.

SEVERAL additions have been made recently to the Russian Imperial navy. Thus a light sailing war clipper named the *Strelok* has been launched at Cronstadt, and the construction of a similar vessel has been commenced. These swift vessels are chiefly intended for distant ocean sailing, while the Baltic navy has hitherto consisted mainly of large ironclads desired for home defence. Two new half ironclad frigates, the *Admiral General* and the *Duke of Edinburgh*, may be classed with the vessels intended for ocean service. The *Strelok* is 207ft. long by 33ft. wide, and her displacement is equal to 1,334 tons. She carries three 6-in. deck guns on movable platforms capable of firing from either side; and apart from these the vessel will have two four-pounders on each side. Her engines, of the composite system, are 1,500 horse power.

WITH regard to arming, writes an English "Line Corporal," "there can be no question that for men intended for fighting on foot there can be nothing better than the Martini-Henry rifle and long bayonet."

THIS, then, being the situation: the native clans well armed and well drilled; the Governor of Herat a man of shady loyalty, who observes strict secrecy as to who are his guests at this moment, coupled to the fact that the most enterprising Russian general in Central Asia is in Turkestan, the necessity for our immediately occupying Herat has at last forced itself upon the sluggish perceptions of the Indian military authorities. Our policy in Afghanistan has proved weak and perilous. It is started upon the hypothesis of giving to our Indian Empire a scientific frontier, and it fell victim to native treachery, if not to secret Russian intrigue. We have

not secured our scientific frontier; we have not settled Afghanistan; we have not squared our disagreements with Russia; we have not achieved any conspicuous advantage. Why? Because we have not occupied Herat. From Herat will come the attack upon our position in Cabul. From Herat will come our dangers and difficulties in the future. We have been irritated by an enemy whose power has been grossly underrated, just as his submission to our authority has been fatally overestimated. We have now seen enough, have suffered enough, to show the unwisdom of our past policy. We shall now do what we ought to have done months ago. We shall occupy Herat with the consent of Persia. And once there, the rest will be easy.—*Broad Arrow*.

THE Lieutenant-Colonel of a regiment of Canadian Militia, writing in a private letter, says: "May I ask you, why don't the authorities try recruiting in Canada? Every year there could easily be obtained, at the end of the drill season, four or five thousand first-class recruits. Many a fine soldier is lost to Great Britain for want of opportunity of joining the Service. There are as many adventurous spirits in Canada, in proportion to population, as there are anywhere else, and they are mostly seasoned men, of good constitution and good physique."

It is stated that the German government have, at the request of Austria, instructed the commanders of the German ships-of-war in Peruvian waters to protect the Austrian Consulates, should the latter be at any time placed in peril through the operations of the war between Chili and Peru.

PATTERNS have been sealed, in England, of a buoyant life saving rocket with a stick and fuze. This rocket is intended for use by the Board of Trade staff as a means of communication from light houses, etc., when unapproachable by boats and in rough weather.

A ST. PETERSBURG despatch says: "The punishment for carrying on the political propaganda among the troops has been raised two degrees in the scale of penalties established by the military code in consequence of recent disclosures showing the activity of the revolutionists in the army."

EXPERIMENTS have been in progress in France during the last three years with a view to the introduction of improvements in the manufacture of army biscuit. It has been found, however, that the use of yeast and salt or of yeast without salt, which it was thought would be an advantage, is detrimental to the keeping powers of the biscuit. The old method of preparing biscuit without either is, therefore, to be reverted to. The cases will be reduced in size and weight, so as never to exceed sixty-two kilograms (139lbs.), which will facilitate carriage on pack-saddles.

SOME experiments with courier, or homing, pigeons are reported from Switzerland, which are supposed to throw doubt upon, although, for all practical purposes, they appear rather to confirm, the alleged helplessness of these birds when thrown up at high altitudes, as in balloon ascents. On the afternoon of the 14th August last a pair of pigeons were thrown up on the Bergli, 8,600 feet above the sea. After perching some time on a neighboring rock, they flew off in the direction of the Eger, but again returned. At 4.20 p. m. they made a final start in the direction of their home at Thun, where one arrived seven days afterwards; the other was never seen again. It was said that the birds had never been taken so far from home before. On the 15th August, at 9.25 a. m., two more pigeons were thrown up from a point fifty feet below the highest summit of the Jungfrau, at an elevation of 13,750 feet above the sea. The birds, after some preliminary circling, took flight down the valley of Lauterbrun, in the direction of their home at

Thun, which was wholly shut out from view by the surrounding mountains. One bird arrived there at 3 p. m. the same day; the other never returned.

IN reference to the trial of the Woolwich system of gun construction, *Engineering* says: "We have no hesitation in saying that the nation would much prefer to know the worst, than to be kept any longer in doubt. It cares but little for the accuracy of the report of any committee, or for the reputation of any clique of officers who have staked their reputation on any particular system of ordnance, in comparison with the greater and more important question, that it shall in future be provided with the best guns that can be produced. After all, gun-making is to a great extent an experimental art, and consequently we must be prepared for errors of judgment, and can condone them, provided they be not repeated; but what cannot be tolerated is, the stubborn sticking to wrong principles because their abandonment would involve an admission of personal error. Leaving this question, and returning to the subject of Sir Wm. Palliser's system of gun construction, it must be freely acknowledged that last Monday's experiments have added one more proof to the many which exist already, that the system possesses great merits. In theory his is a right process of building up a gun, in manufacture it is cheap and convenient. Experience in this country has proved that the medium-sized pieces of ordnance constructed on this plan possess enormous strength and endurance; while American experiments have demonstrated the fact that the system can be applied with equal success to guns of the largest size. Is it, therefore, too much to ask that our own War Office should give the system a fair trial before committing the nation to other courses which may involve a costly failure?"

THE London *Broad Arrow* says: As it will be gratifying doubtless to Kimball, as well as soothing to ourselves, for us to puff his cigarettes, be it known that the *Broad Arrow* puffs them accordingly, and, withal, appreciates them highly. The packets, of all sizes, are done up in Japanese wrappers of great taste, but not to equal the taste of the perique within. As to the tobacco pure and simple, we commend Kimball's "Flake Cut" as well worthy of trial.

THE "St. Nicholas" hotel, of New York, competes favorably with all its rivals in these essential points, magnificent cooking, close attention to the wants of guests, elegantly furnished rooms, and a profusion of all the modern conveniences and appliances wherewith the guest is saved every trouble and effort. The rates are very moderate withal, in accordance with the hard times, and the throngs of visitors attest how much these things are appreciated by the public.

BIRTH.

PHILBRICK.—At Bath, Me., Jan. 1, 1880, to the wife of 2d Lieut. J. H. Philbrick, 11th Infantry, a son.

DIED.

[Brief announcements will be inserted under this head without charge. Obituary notices and resolutions should be paid for at the rate of two cents a word, unless it is intended to leave the question of their insertion to the discretion of the Editor.]

BATCHELLER.—At Boston, Mass., January 3, of diphtheria, MARY B. BATCHELLER, niece of Commander O. A. Batcheller, U.S. Navy, aged 15 years.

NEILL.—At Buffalo, N. Y., January 2, 1880, infant daughter of General Thos. H. and Eva L. Neill.

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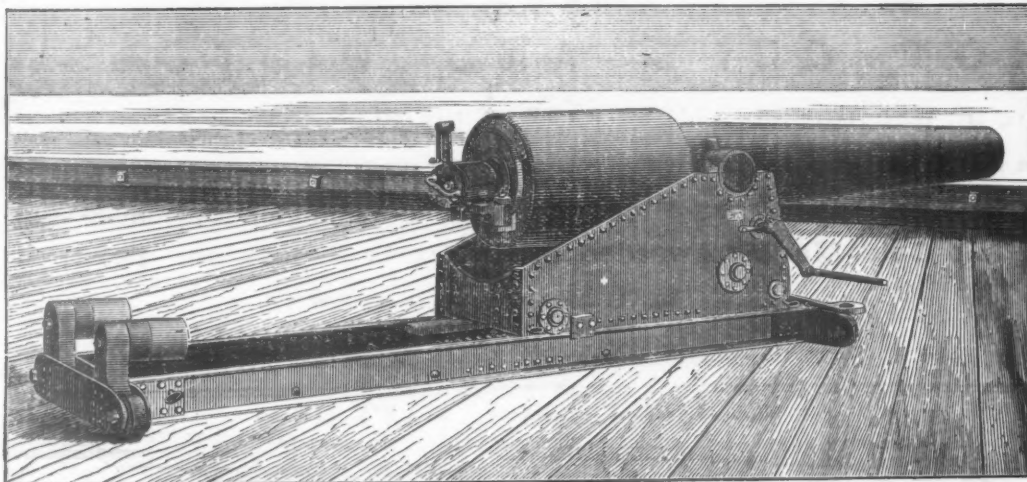
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